FBIS DAILY REPORT

Soviet Union

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NEWS CONFERENCE ON WARSAW PACT MILITARY DOCTRINE

LD222108 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1845 GMT 22 Jun 87

[News conference by Vladimir Fedorovich Petrovskiy, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; Colonel General Makhmut Akhmetovich Gareyev, deputy chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; Viktor Pavlovich Karpov, chief of a department of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry; Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman; Colonel General Nikolay Fedorovich Chervov, head of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces; on 22 June in Moscow presented by correspondent Molchanov; accompanying video shows, from left to right of screen, Karpov, Petrovskiy, Gerasimov, Gareyev, and Chervov on the platform, and close-ups of each as he speaks]

[Text] [Molchanov] In Moscow today, a news conference was held for Soviet and foreign journalists on the theme: The Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Pact Organization and its interpretation in international politics. A statement was read out by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Vladimir Fedorovich Petrovskiy. He said:

[Begin Petrovskiy recording] The new initiative by the socialist countries on the question of military doctrines is restructuring in action, in the most sensitive area of international relations, the area of military security. It is visible proof of the purity of the intentions and plans of the socialist countries. Taking into account the proposals still in force on meetings of commanders in chief of NATO and of the Warsaw Pact, and on contacts between their general secretaries, this initiative expands the perspective of the development of dialogue between the military-political alliances with the aim of strengthening trust and reducing the level of military confrontation.

But, dialogue is not a theater for one actor; we again invite NATO to step onto the political stage with constructive thoughts and proposals. Unfortunately, on the part of the West there are more words than concrete countermeasures in response to our initiatives. As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said yesterday, in the West today there is a shortage of realistic policy. Prenuclear thinking is too strong over there in the West, a fascination with the shields and swords of dogma and confrontation. The Soviet Union and the socialist countries -- with their new initiative on military doctrines, just as with their other genuinely tangible deeds on all paths of the movement toward a nonnuclear and nonviolent world -- are visibly showing that making the political and military behavior of states accord with nuclear and space realities is entirely possible and realistic if there is a sincere aspiration for this, and if people operate with a recognition of responsibility for the fate of their own people and for mankind's survival. [end recording]

[Molchanov] What is the main characteristic of the Warsaw Pact Organization's Military Doctrine? Colonel General Makhmut Akhmetovich Gareyev, deputy chief of General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, talked about this at the news conference:

[Begin Gareyev recording] I want to stress that the Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Pact also defines the destination, the direction of the construction and preparation of the Armed Forces, or, in other words, the major tenets of the military-technical aspect of military doctrine. What are its main characteristics? First, taking into account the reality of the nuclear age, for the first time in military history, the main task of the armed forces is to prevent, not to allow war, both nuclear and conventional.

Second, a major characteristic of the Warsaw Pact member states' military doctrine is that it has a profoundly defensive direction. It is reflected in the fact that the socialist states will not start a war under any circumstances -- neither nuclear nor conventional -- against any state, be it in Europe or in another part of the world if they themselves are not the object of attack. They will never be the first to use nuclear weapons. The USSR and the other socialist countries do not have territorial claims on any state either in or outside of Europe. [end recording]

[Molchanov] Replying to a question from the correspondent of the Japanese paper ASAHI on practical measures the Warsaw Pact countries are proposing to reduce the level of military confrontation, Viktor Pavlovich Karpov, chief of a department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said:

[Begin Karpov recording] These initiatives are formed from initiatives both from the line of collective actions of Warsaw Pact members and from individual initiatives by members of the alliance. Briefly, these initiatives cover various directions on nuclear arms, chemical weapons, and conventional arms. As for nuclear weapons, pride of place here goes to the practical, realistic proposal for elimination by the Soviet Union and United States of medium-range missiles in Europe. Apart from this, our proposal is still in force to the United States on halting nuclear weapons testing. The Soviet Union is ready to resume its moratorium, if the United States declares its readiness to halt testing. We also propose concrete talks with the aim of gradually reducing the nuclear quantity and power of nuclear tests and their subsequent complete banning.

On the question of chemical weapons, our delegation at the disarmament conference, and in cooperation with the delegations of the other socialist countries, comes out actively in favor of completing work on preparing a convention on banning chemical weapons and eliminating their supplies. As far as conventional troops and armaments are concerned, a whole series of initiatives in this direction has been formulated by the Warsaw Pact states. First and foremost, there was the appeal of 11 June 1986 in Budapest, which became further developed and consolidated in other proposals by the Warsaw Pact member states. In this context I would like to draw attention to the proposal by the GDR and Czechoslovakia on the creation of a nuclear-free corridor in Europe which was completely and in its entirety supported by the Soviet Union. Guarantees were provided that should such an agreement be concluded, the Soviet Union would withdraw all its nuclear armaments from this zone. Poland's proposal for creating a zone of reduced armaments and enhanced trust in Central Europe is also being further developed. There is also a proposal by Bulgaria and Romania regarding turning the Balkans into a zone free from nuclear and chemical weapons, and so on. I have merely given the basic directions along which practical, specific measures are being proposed.

[Gerasimov] The U.S. BULLETIN OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS has counted 25 proposals by us over the past 2 years. In this hall they are asking all the time: What will your next be, the 26th? [end recording]

[Molchanov] THE NEW YORK TIMES put the question: Does the Warsaw Pact intend to take any unilateral steps on reducing conventional armed forces and arms? Colonel General Nikolay Fedorovich Chervov replies.

[Begin Chervov recording] Esteemed, THE NEW YORK TIMES, you are always expecting unilateral steps from the Warsaw Pact. Gennadiy Ivanovich has just said that there have been 25 proposals, and they are waiting for a 26th: Apparently they still can't sort things out.

But what's so complicated, say, about understanding a moratorium on nuclear tests? For 1 and 1/2 years the USSR has maintained a moratorium on nuclear tests. Do you mean to say the Americans can't understand the essence of this initiative? For a whole year the NATO countries have been unable to respond to the Budapest program -- a reduction in conventional armed forces and arms in Europe. How can this be a complicated problem? So, obviously, one should approach an appraisal to the Warsaw Pact's proposal in a more serious and balanced way. We have more than once made unilateral concessions. But the NATO countries have merely shoved these unilateral concessins into their pockets and, even for propaganda purposes, turned them on their head. For example, we have withdrawn 20,000 tanks and a large quantity of other equipment from Europe, but Western propaganda has presented matters in such a way...[pauses] Well, this is how they put it: Tanks are loaded at one station and unloaded at another. That is, in fact, they have been suggesting to public opinion that there has been no reduction.

At the present time there is a balance of forces in Europe and an approximate military equilibrium in conventional armaments, despite an asymmetry and imbalance in conventional armaments. That is why a unilateral reduction would damage the security of the Warsaw Pact which, incidentally, would also be of disadvantage to the NATO countries. Therefore, one should not expect unilateral steps on the part of the Warsaw Pact. The NATO countries must themselves take practical steps to meet the Warsaw Pact halfway. [end recording]

[Molchanov] Many of the journalists present at the news conference were interested in the question of how much the probability of achieving an agreement on medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles has recently increased.

[Begin recording] [Karpov] Unfortunately, so far the U.S. proposals still contain elements which cannot be accepted by the Soviet side in view of their discriminatory character toward the USSR, these elements which remain in the U.S. position are hampering the achievement of an accord. What I have in mind are even such absurdities in the U.S. position as the putting forward simultaneously of proposals for total elimination of operational and tactical missiles and retaining at the same time, proposals which allow Pershing-2 missiles to be refitted as missiles having a range of 500-1,000 km. That is, absurdities such as this remain in the U.S. position.

[Chervov] As far as the absurdities are concerned, Viktor Pavlovich has hit on just the right term. At the moment the situation is this: According to the U.S. proposal, the Soviet Union is supposed to physically destroy the SS-20, the SS-4, the SS-12 and the SS-23. Ask a U.S. spokesman what the U.S. side will physically destroy, and they won't reply, since everything on the U.S. side is to be refitted, and nothing is to be destroyed. There's an absurdity for you.

[Gerasimov] RUDE PRAVO asks: It is asserted in the West that 40 years of peace are the result of nuclear deterrence opposing the superior military might of the Warsaw Pact. What can you say about that? Who will speak?

[Chervov] I will say a couple of words. Peace in Europe has been maintained for more than 40 years not because of the existence of nuclear weapons, but because there exist the countries of the socialist community, which do not allow the imperialist states to plunge Europe into new wars. It is the mighty military potential, the military-economic potential of the socialist countries that is the obstacle to the unleashing of war in Europe. Our compromise proposals on radical reductions and total elimination of nuclear weapons have one aim: To reduce nuclear confrontation in Europe, to avert a threat of war, and to save mankind from nuclear catastrophe. [end recording]

More on Petrovskiy Remarks

LD221338 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS -- "The survival of mankind and the building of a nuclear-free and ultimately demilitarised world are incompatible with doctrines which associate the future with a military solution to international issues and which rely on the experience of past wars", Vladimir Petrovskiy, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, stated today. He spoke at the ministry's press centre before foreign and Soviet journalists.

Setting out the essence of the document, which was adopted in Berlin recently by the Warsaw Treaty member states and which formulates the fundamental provisions of their military doctrine, he emphasized that it was subordinated to the task of preventing war, both nuclear and conventional one.

The participants in the session in Berlin stated that they would not be the first to use nuclear weapons, that they would not start military operations unless in reply to an attack, and that they lacked a hostile attitude or territorial claims to any member of the international community.

"Security", Vladimir Petrovskiy said, "is not in the pursuit of an elusive spectre of victory in a nuclear war but in the ability to prevent a nuclear cataclysm and to use political means, and not military ones, in international affairs".

"For the first time in history they proclaimed not just a defensive doctrine but the one which is directed against wars and is aimed at consolidating the foundations of security for everyone. Already the very fact of the proclamation of the doctrine is having a salutary effect on the climate and situation in the world".

Another reason why the "Military Doctrine" document, advanced by the Warsaw Treaty member-states, has international significance is because they have approached their Atlantic partners with a proposal for consultations at an authoritative expert level with the participation of military specialists already this year, who will compare the military doctrines of Europe's two military political alliances.

"We are for qualified experts from both sides," the deputy minister continued, "to meet and explain in a fully objective and unbiased way the contents of the military doctrines of both sides, jointly study them and try to reach a consensus. This is most important today. Our proposals on this score have been handed to NATO, but we have not received an answer yet."

The Warsaw Treaty member-states have a right to expect the NATO countries to produce at the consultations evidence backing up statements by their leaders that they would resort to military force only in reply to an aggression. We again invite NATO to come up with constructive ideas and proposals. Unfortunately, there are more words from the West than concrete steps in reaction to our initiatives."

The Soviet Union and socialist countries provide graphic proof with their new initiative on the military doctrine that it is quite possible to bring the political and military conduct of states in line with the nuclear space realities, if there is a sincere striving and awareness of the responsibility for the destinies of their people, for the survival of humanity.

Karpov on U.S. Proposals

LD221525 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1438 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jun (TASS) -- We interpret the proposals put forward by the U.S. side at the Geneva talks as a response to the USSR proposal which was made during U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to Moscow this April, said Viktor Karpov, head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at a news conference here today.

At the same time, the U.S. proposals raise the task of eliminating operational and tactical missiles not only in Europe, but also in Asia, that is on a global basis. This position does not contradict our approach either, V. Karpov pointed out. We also propose that the question of operational and tactical missiles could be resolved, including on a global basis. But for this, just as on questions relating to medium-range missiles in the Asiatic part of the USSR, a number of other factors must be taken into consideration, which the U.S. side has so far failed to take account of; namely the presence of U.S. nuclear weapons in Asia and the means to deliver them.

Taking these factors into account, we are willing, as we have already repeatedly declared, to tackle the question of medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles on a global basis.

Unfortunately, said the head of the USSR Foreign Ministry department, the U.S. proposals still contain elements that the Soviet side cannot accept because they discriminate against the USSR. We have in mind such absurdities in the U.S. position as the fact that they are simultaneously putting forward a proposal for the total elimination of operational and tactical missiles and retaining the proposal that would allow them to adapt the Pershing-2's into missiles with a range of from 500-1,000 km; and the persistent desire of the United States to deploy 100 warheads on medium-range missiles in Alaska to put them within range of the USSR.

Chervov on Nuclear Deterrence

LD221541 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1455 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jun (TASS) -- Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, head of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, has stated that there are no justifications at the present time for the concept of "nuclear deterrence" which relates to the "cold war" period. Speaking at a news conference here today, he noted that this concept is egotistic by its very essence. To some extent it guarantees the safety of the nuclear states. But what is to become of the other countries and regions which do not have nuclear weapons, and which are the absolute majority of states, N. Chervov asked.

The concept of "nuclear deterrence" is in effect the concept from a "position of strength." At the present time, military and strategic parity is a factor in averting war. The arms race, however, makes this parity ever more elevated and ever more unstable, and there may come a moment when parity will no longer serve as a factor in averting war. Therefore, Nikolay Chervov stressed, the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states are proposing an alternative to the concept of "nuclear deterrence." This is the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

Gareyev Outlines Doctrine

LD221357 Moscow TASS in English 1339 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS -- "The Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Treaty member countries is a visual reflection of their new thinking on the issues of war in the nuclear age and on the problems of defense and of ensuring both security for each state and equal security for all states," Colonel-General Makhmut Gareyev, a deputy chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR, told a news conference here today. He said a new feature of the doctrine was that it represented a system of fundamental views on ways of preventing war, military development, preparing countries and armed forces to repulse aggression and methods of waging armed struggle to protect socialism.

"This doctrine," Gareyev said, "is of purely defensive nature, as reflected in the fact that the socialist countries will under no circumstances start war, nuclear or conventional, against any state, in Europe or elsewhere, if they themselves are not attacked."

"They will never be the first to use nuclear weapons," he added. "The USSR and other socialist countries do not lay territoral claims to any state, either in Europe or elsewhere."

"The Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Treaty Organization is aimed at achieving an ever lower level of military confrontation of the sides as genuine equal security today is guaranteed not by a high but the lowest possible level of the strategic equilibrium.

"This is its main difference from the military doctrine of NATO, which in actual fact is far from having the defensive nature publicized in the West," Gareyev said.

He cited official documents and statements by leaders of the United States and other NATO countries and also pointed to their actions that do not fit into the frameworks of a defensive doctrine.

"Isn't this why the NATO countries have refused to pledge no-first-use of nuclear weapons and sign a non-aggession pact with the Warsaw Treaty Organization?," Gareyev asked.

"In conditions where the danger of war for socialist countries has not been removed, the Warsaw Treaty member states have to keep such a level as to enable themselves to repel any outside attack against any state participating in the treaty.

"The Armed Forces of the allied countries are maintained in sufficient combat readiness to prevent themselves from being taken unawares, and if they are nonetheless attacked, they will issue a crushing rebuff to the aggressor," Colonel-General Gareyev said.

More on Gareyev

LD221446 Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS -- Reduction of troops can only be mutual, said deputy chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR Colonel-General Makhmut Gareyev at a press conference today. The Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Treaty member-states, just as the Soviet military doctrine, is the defensive one.

The NATO Armed Forces have big groups of Armed Forces in the European continent and the adjacent water area, said Makhmud Gareyev. For a whole number of means, for instance, tactical and nuclear weapons, strike aviation, anti-tank means NATO has a considerable advantage over the Warsaw Treaty organization. Therefore, if one is to take all-round, but not selective appraisals, the conclusion can be only one -- the combat possibilities of the NATO troops are approximately equal to those of the Warsaw Treaty organisation.

But by the reserve components the advantage is on the NATO's side, since the strength of the NATO troops exceeds 50 per cent that of the Warsaw Treaty organisation. NATO has an advantage by the production capacities of the war industry, by a number of specific types of armaments. Therefore the Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-states with relations to the Armed Forces of the North Atlantic Alliance are in a defensive position, and therefore any attack is out of the question, stressed Makhmut Gareyev.

VORONTSOV MEETINGS WITH U.S. SIDE REPORTED

LD231216 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Geneva June 23 TASS -- In recent days Yuliy Vorontsov, the leader of the USSR delegation at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, has had a number of meetings with Max Kampelman, the leader of the U.S. delegation, counsellor of the U.S. Department of State, as well as with Ambassador Maynard Glitman and Ambassador Ronald Lehman, U.S. representatives in the groups on medium-range missiles and on strategic offensive arms.

Headway in coordinating the provisions of a draft text of a treaty on medium-range missiles was pointed out during the meetings.

At the same time the Soviet side specially emphasised that the desire of the U.S. side to keep its nuclear warheads for Pershing-1A missiles belonging to the Federal Republic of Germany directly contradicted with the U.S. consent to full elimination of the Soviet and U.S. shorter-range missiles in Europe.

Such an approach by the United States is obviously aimed at gaining a unilateral advantage. Therefore, it cannot serve as a basis for a mutually acceptable accord and should be reconsidered.

The Soviet side again pointed out the need to reach agreement on measures to consolidate the regime of the ABM Treaty and to prevent an arms race in outer space, which would open up a prospect for a solution to the major issue of 50-percent cutbacks in strategic offensive arms of the sides on the basis of the mutual understanding reached at the summit in Reykjavik.

KASHLEV SUBMITS WORKING DOCUMENT AT INFORMAL TALKS

LD221305 Moscow TASS in English 1303 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Vienna June 22 TASS -- Representatives of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries to informal consultations for preparing talks on cuts in armed forces and armaments in Europe from the Atlantic on the Urals held another meeting here today.

Ambassador Yuriy Kashlev, leader of the Soviet delegation, tabled a working document on behalf of the allied socialist nations, which defines the key elements of a mandate for the future talks.

It basically reflects the socialist countries' suggested program for bolstering security in Europe through mutual, phased and substantial reductions of armed forces and conventional arms, which has been reaffirmed at a recent meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty members in Berlin.

The proposals of the socialist countries at the Vienna consultations are geared to specific and effective steps to scale down military confrontation considerably and enhance strategic military stability in the continent.

The working document submitted by the socialist countries, the Soviet representative said, offers the basis for proceeding to practical work to draw up the mandate of the future talks.

CC CONFERENCE FAULTS AID TO SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

PM231057 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jun 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Conference at CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A conference took place on 22 June at the CPSU Central Committee on the further improvement of economic cooperation between the USSR and the SRV, the Mongolian People's Republic, and the Republic of Cuba, and of enhancing its efficiency. Taking part in the work of the conference were Ye.K. Ligchev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; N.N. Slyunkov, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; A.P. Biryukoua, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.K. Gusev and V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments; leaders of a number of ministries and departments and production enterprises and associations; scientists; and USSR ambassadors to and economic counsellors at Soviet embassies in the SRV, Mongolia, and Cuba.

An announcement was made by Comrade Kamentsev, chairman of the State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Those taking part in the conference noted the growing scale of economic aid and assistance to the SRV, Mongolia, and Cuba, which meets the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress and the international interests of the entire sociliast commonwealth.

Thousands of production projects have been built and put into operation in these countries with aid from the Soviet Union, and hundreds of thousands of national engineering and technical staff and qualified workers have been trained. These enterprises produce the overwhelming bulk of electric power and products of the fuel-and-energy, mining and extraction, metal-working and light industries. Our friends place a high value on the internationalist contribution of the Soviet Union in accelerating the socioeconomic development of these countries.

Aside from this, the significant reserves for increasing the efficiency of construction and the economic activity of enterprises being established with economic and technical assistance from the USSR were pointed out.

Note was made of the need for a comprehensive solution to matters of cooperation, and optimal approach to the choice of projects, strengthening contractual discipline, and increasing the responsibility of the sides for quality in fulfilling the obligations undertaken.

Comrade Ligachev spoke at the conference. He emphasized that at the meetings between Mikahil Sergeyevich Gorbachev and the leaders of the fraternal parties and states the tasks of deepening and improving cooperation between the CEMA member-countries are closely coordinated with the need for a gradual equalization of the levels of their economic developments. This presupposes further assistance to the fraternal countries of the SRV, Mongolia, and Cuba in the matter of accelerating socioeconomic development.

In the field of Soviet-Vietnamese, Soviet-Mongolian and Soviet-Cuban economic ties there are some considerable achievements. However serious shortcomings do not allow us to consider as satisfactory the activity of a number of our ministries and departments. [paragraph continues]

They have not drawn the required conclusions from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee in improving economic cooperation with fraternal countries; there is a need for restructuring work in this direction. Particular attention must be directed to the widescale application in the practice of cooperation of new progressive forms, direct production and scientific links, the creation of joint enterprises and associations, and the development of other integrated mutual links.

Ministries and departments must closely examine the comments and proposals made at the conference and to consider them in their practical work. Central Committee departments are expected to constantly monitor the progress of the restructuring of work in economic and technical cooperation with the SRV, Mongolia, and Cuba while bearing in mind the importance and responsibility of this task.

PRAGUE MEETING OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS CONCLUDES

LD172100 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Prague June 17 TASS -- Questions of economic and social development of socialist countries, problems of reorganization of management, of the further democratisation of society where discussed at a conference of representatives of public organizations from eleven fraternal countries which ended in the Czechoslovak capital today.

The participants in the conference emphasized the increased importance of the interaction of public organizations, of national and fatherland fronts of socialist countries in connection with the implementation of the comprehensive program of scientific and technological progress of the CMEA countries through the year 2000. Thus, Soviet societies of friendship develop vigorous activities at the construction of integrational facilities at the Soviet Union's territory, the USSR representative noted at the conference.

Making the concluding remarks, Deputy Chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of Czechoslovakia Tomas Travnicek emphasized that the conference opened the opportunity for the familiarization with a vast activity of public organizations of fraternal countries at the present stage of socialist construction.

The next conference of representatives of public organizations of socialist countries will be held in Bucharest.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD212116 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 21 Jun 87

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Viktor Aleksandrovich Tsoppi, MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI observer; Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin, first deputy director general of TASS; and Igor Pavlovich Charikov, All-Union radio foreign political commentator]

[Text] [Charikov] Hello, esteemed comrades. The further World War II, that great battle with fascism which began for the peoples of our country on 22 June 1941, recedes into history, the more insistent and acute becomes the need to remember it and remind others of it. Not only because that war brought us and the peoples of other states hardships and sufferings which cannot be compared with anything in the past. It was not the longest war in history, but it involved the greatest numbers and the greatest bloodshed. Three-fourths of what was then the world's population were actively involved. Military operations took place on the territory of 40 countries, on the continents of Europe, Asia, and Africa. Let me remind you that more than 50 million people lost their lives in that war; the Soviet Union alone lost 20 million people. For the first time in the history of warfare civilian casualties outnumbered those who actually perished on the battlefield One could prolong the list of ominous records set by World War II. The need to remind ourselves of all this, distressing though it is, is dictated by the today's realities. Today's world faces the threat of a new war, whose consequences even the military experts have difficulty in imagining. Another war could mean the destruction of world civilization. It could cut short all life on our planet.

How can we avert the threat of such a war? By stockpiling arsenals of weapons and creating ever more destructive ones? That way has resulted in a situation in which the very existence of vast quantities of arms, primarily nuclear, has become a threat, a terrible threat. Our desire to achieve a secure world by accumulating and perfecting weapons has brought the directly opposite result. How then, if at all, can we escape from what seems to be a vicious circle?

There is a way out: All countries which possess nuclear weapons should adopt a new approach in keeping with the present stage of the development of science and technology, a new way of thinking in the nuclear age. They must agree to end the arms race, and then to abolish armaments altogether. The experience of cooperation between states belonging to different socioeconomic systems that was amassed, not without difficulty, during the years of World War II serves not only as an example but also as proof of the fact that, given good will and an understanding of the fateful nature of the situation that has arisen in the world, all difficulties can be overcome.

Current problems can be solved not from a position of strength but only from a position of common sense. A realistic foundation for solving the problems of nuclear weapons is provided by the large-scale program for their total abolition by the year 2000, and also by the other specific proposals submitted by the Soviet Union and its allies. The lessons of World War II, which began for our country on 22 June 1941, urge us to halt the dangerous process of drifting toward the nuclear abyss. That is the context in which we remember 22 June.

[Shishkin] When we remember that day that brought us so much sorrow, of course we think about what conclusions we should draw from it for the future.

We remember that it was the Soviet Union that assumed the main burden of opposing Hitlerite aggression. At the time we were the only socialist country in Europe. Today, our peace-loving policy is based on coordination of our actions with our allies, with our friends in the Warsaw Pact and CEMA. In that sense, our mature strength today, the strength of the world socialist community, is influencing the entire development of the international situation. We observe in our time that it is forcing the other side, the imperialist camp, to seek a modus vivendi that will enable us all to live on this planet, even though it's difficult. It is difficult because the force of inertia is operating, because of certain fears that are no longer justified today. The socialist community is still coordinating its foreign policy and submitting one new initiative after another; and at times this drives the Western politicians and the Western generals into a corner.

The last few days have been notable for Comrade Shevardnadze's visit to three socialist countries of East Europe: Bulgaria, Hungary, and Yugoslavia. I'd simply like to quote the short passage from his speech in Sofia in which he speaks of the comparison between our military doctrine and that of the West. He dots all the I's very clearly and plainly specifies the tasks facing the foreign policy of the socialist countries. Comrade Shevardnadze reminds us of Maksim Gorkiy's saying that knowledge comes from comparison. Knowledge of what the countries of the Warsaw Pact and of the North Atlantic alliance represent and what aims they set themselves can be obtained by comparing and collating the military doctrines of each of these military-political alliances. Tranquillity, good-neighborliness and trust only come into existence when there is clarity and certainty regarding the intentions and and sincerity of the other side. This, really, is just what we have offered our Atlantic opponents: a chance to satisfy themselves of the sincerity of our intentions and, in turn, to present us with arguments in favor of their sincerity. We have presented our arguments. As Comrade Shevardnadze reminded us, the Warsaw Pact countries have declared at the highest level they will in no circumstances attack any other state and will never be first to use nuclear weapons.

In reply, we have heard nothing. That is not surprising, because the doctrine of the Atlantic bloc does not bear open comparison, either from the viewpoint of its tendency or in respect of its nuclear element. NATO has not renounced, and is unwilling to renounce, the first nuclear strike.

Thus I believe today we have a succinct and laconic formulation of the problem of our mutual relations with the Western world, of our desire to join with them in seeking a way out of the exceedingly dangerous international situation. Today there are perfectly clear signs that a way can be found, let us hope, in the very near future.

[Tsoppi] While we're on the subject of associations connected with historic dates, I'd like to remark that there are some among them that remind us how consistently, year in, year out, the Soviet Union has been struggling to break the spiral of the arms race. For example on that same date, 22 June, but this time in 1973, an agreement was signed in Washington between the Soviet Union and the United States on the prevention of nuclear war. Here's another date: 5 years ago, on 15 June 1982, the Soviet Union, guided by the desire to do all in its power to deflect from the peoples the threat of nuclear devastation and ultimately to rule out its very possibility from human life, undertook an obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. The whole world applauded that extraordinarily important unilateral undertaking. People expected that that decision would be followed by reciprocal steps on the part of the other nuclear powers, above all, the United States. After all, the 1973 Soviet-U.S. agreement placed it clearly on record that the aim of their policy was to remove the danger of nuclear war and of the use of nuclear weapons.

Under that accord the Soviet Union and the United States agreed to act in such a way as to prevent situations that could dangerously exacerbate their relations and to avoid military confrontations so as to rule out the possibility of an outbreak of nuclear war between either of the sides and other countries. By all its activities in the international arena the Soviet Union is repeatedly demonstrating its loyalty to its obligations, undertaken both unilaterally and under agreements and treaties with other states. In this, our country relies upon the fraternal support of the whole socialist community, which is really what you have said, Viktor Aleksandrovich.

The latest proof of this is the document signed in Berlin on the Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Pact member states. They declared at the highest level that they will in no circumstances attack any state, and that they will never be first to use nuclear weapons. On the whole, the reply from the United States and NATO has so far been silence. This is not surprising because the doctrine of the Atlantic bloc does not bear open comparison, either from the viewpoint of its tendency or as regards its nuclear component. NATO has not renounced the first nuclear strike and does not wish to do so, as the United States has shown by systematically breaking the treaty obligations that it has undertaken. Take, as just one example, the unceremonious way the Reagan administration tossed aside the SALT II treaty signed 18 June 1979 in Vienna. That was the treaty that was seen throughout the world as a major contribution to solving a problem of concern to all mankind: that of stopping the nuclear arms race. The unceremonious scrapping of SALT II by the United States proves that Washington still cherishes the hope of breaking the parity and gaining superiority over the Soviet Union.

Further confirmation of this is the fact that the United States and NATO are doing everything possible to evade practical implementation of the zero option on medium-range missiles in Europe that they themselves originally proposed. They took 6 weeks to ponder the corresponding Soviet proposal. In the face of the world public, which unanimously demands acceptance of that proposal, they were forced at the NATO Council session in Reykjavik to consent to it. But that decision is accompanied by reservations that place the achievement of agreement at the Geneva talks in jeopardy.

As we see, quite a few obstacles remain in the way of achieving the aim of ridding Europe of its nuclear missiles. So we can describe as clearly premature the tendency that has now emerged in the capitals of the North Atlantic bloc to paint the results of the Reykjavik session of the NATO Council in glowing colors. A genuine evaluation of them will depend on what specific position the United States adopts at the Geneva talks.

[Charikov] You know, at the same time, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich, in a recent television speech President Reagan was at no small pains to appropriate to himself all the laurels for the positive changes that are beginning to be seen at the Geneva talks. He even employed the phrase: at a time when we and our allies are trying to seize this historic opportunity. I believe this has a blasphemous ring against the backdrop of all that the administration is continuing to do, and it's continuing to do things that are the very opposite. For example, the Pentagon, the U.S. war department, is making practical preparations for nuclear war. They're setting up a network of command, control, communications, and so forth for surviving a nuclear war and emerging into a so-called postwar phase. You know? Despite all this, the administration claims to be loyal to the spirit of the agreement you mentioned, the 1973 agreement on prevention of nuclear war. There's a bit of a contradiction here, a discrepancy between words and deeds that's characteristic, actually, of the U.S. Administration. Yet it is reproaching us for not extending openness [glasnost] to the military sphere, for instance.

Just recently, Edward Rowny, special assistant to the U.S. President at the Geneva talks, declared that it would be a good thing if the Soviet Union were to carry openness over into the military sphere. It's hard to say what he meant by that, but it seems to me that in any case he was addressing the wrong person. He'd have done better, it would seem, to have said that to Washington itself, to the administration, because what question can there be of openness at the White House when it's up to its ears in a quagmire of political corruption and intrigue?

[Shishkin] And of deception and political lies.

[Charikov] Well, I can just give one final example -- I won't discuss it at length -- Irangate. The upheaval's still going on, the dust still hasn't settled, but it's hardly likely -- I have almost no doubt about it -- hardly likely that the U.S. public, which has the right to know as that favorite U.S. expression has it, will ever know all the ins and outs of this scandal.

[Shishkin] I think all you've just been saying, Igor Pavlovich, proves one thing: A lot of fine words are spoken in Washington, but there are no deeds whatsoever to back them up. So it's at least obvious to the whole world now that the Soviet Union, for its part, has already traveled more than half the distance toward an agreement, has met the other side more than halfway, whereas the United States on the other hand has yet to show any practical desire or willingness to cover its half of the distance. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was 1,000 times right when he noted at his meeting on 2 June with representatives of the physician's movement that when we do try to get things moving we meet with no real political response: All we get is the skulduggery of politicians.

Yet we are all living through a very crucial time, in that it is now clear to all right-thinking people that there is indeed a real chance of breaking through the dangerous trend created by the war game of the United States.

[Tsoppi] Of course. This may not have any direct connection with what you've just been saying, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich, but I'd like to say a word or two about another event that took place a few days ago, that is the visit to Poland of Pope John Paul II. Western press comment on the visit has been very full and very varied.

Well, as for the visit itself, the pope was given a warm welcome in Poland and was accorded the respect due to the head of the Roman Catholic Church and of the Vatican, whose signature is affixed to the Final Act of the general European conference. The encounter took place on two levels, as it were: the level of the leaders of the Polish state and government, and the level of the believers who -- in this respect socialist Poland is unique -- comprise the majority of the population.

As you'll remember, the pope is a Pole. Before his election to the sacred throne he was Karol Wojtyla, bishop of Krakow. He is an erudite and broadly cultured man, a theologian and playwright, master of many foreign languages and a tireless traveler, or, as he himself says, pilgrim. He has been to a great many of the countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. This was his third visit to Poland.

How did he find Poland this time? It's no longer the same country that he saw on his previous visit in 1983. It has extricated itself from the grip of crisis and is gradually solving its problems under the PZPR's leadership.

It is this that is not to the liking of those reactionary circles in the West that would like to make Poland's crisis chronic and permanent. They don't want to give the sick man, as they say, of the socialist family a chance to get better, so that the whole family may remain in a fever. The West had very much hoped that religious ecstasy at the sight of the Roman pontiff would awaken a fanaticism that would mean new convulsions and new rebellion. That did not happen. Despite the fact that the guest and pilgrim strayed in places from his pastoral sermon into political preaching and rash talk about what's good and what's bad for the Polish state, the visit passed quietly, on the whole.

It's true there were a couple of rather unpleasant incidents. In Krakow, for instance, someone held aloft above the throng the frankly unintelligent and provocative slogan: Catholicism yes -- Communism No! Well, in the first place, the pope had come at the invitation not only of the Catholic Episcopate, but also of Wojciech Jaruzelski, chairman of the PPR State Council, who is also first secretary of the part of the Polish communists. In the second place, in our time we are living increasingly in one world, and in such a world a black-and-white confrontation of that kind is, I should say, simply out of place. I, for example am a Communist, but I have no objection at all to these words addressed by the Pope to Wojciech Jaruzelski: If you want to preserve peace, remember the human being. Remember his rights, which are inalienable. The economy, like labor, is for man and not the other way around. The human being always comes first. It's another matter that the purposeful and real actions of communists bring the individual far greater concrete and tangible benefits here on earth than even the most impassioned prayer for his blessing in heaven.

When John Paul II was in Gdansk he visited Westerplatte, the place where on 1 September 1939 Poland sustained the first blow from Hitler's Germany with which World War II actually began. The head of the Vatican, reminded all believers and nonbelievers, and himself, of the duty to resist the danger of new worldwide carnage. Against this backdrop the actions of the enemies of socialism, who managed to involve several thousand people in their provocative demonstration, looked like -- let us use an ecclesiastical word, why not? -- sacrilege.

Of course, Poland still has not only a few difficult and at times painful problems, which can be solved only by the efforts of the Poles themselves, of all Poles. Jaruzelski told John Paul II: In the period of protest in the eighties all that was genuine and in the interests of Poland is receiving today, and will receive, a broad place in public life. We are not afraid of new solutions. We are open to every realistic initiative. There is only one limit, and that is respect for Polish national interests and observance of the socialist principles of our state. Attempts to overstep that limit are fruitless, as has been proven many times. Actions directed toward wrecking the dialogue in the name of peace are criminal.

Those are true words. Today, no differences and no prejudices must be allowed to eclipse the concern common to all states and to all people: the concern for survival.

[Shishkin] Viktor Aleksandrovich, I'd like to remind us of an event that happened in a completely different part of the world, and outwardly it is not, of course, connected with what occurred in Poland. But it is fully relevant to the general theme of our discussion, which is peace for the world. I'm referring to the international conference in Abuja, Nigeria titled Africa: Tasks of Economic Improvement and Activation of Development. [paragraph continues]

Especially in recent years the transnational monopolies and financial capital have intensified their exploitation of the developing countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, laying on them the main burden of the world economic crisis and thus inhibiting their socioeconomic development. The World Bank estimates that prices of raw materials, on which the developing countries base their exports, are now between one-fourth and one-third of what they were in the seventies, whereas the prices of manufactured goods that those countries import have risen sharply. These unfavorable trade conditions have caused the developing countries to get into debt to the tune of more than $1 trillion. Paying off these debts accounts at present for from one-fifth of the reserve funds of these countries and up to one-third of their income from exports. All this has led to the fact that they have turned into an enormous zone of poverty. Incomes in the former colonial mother countries are 11 times higher than these in the former colonies. The (?gap) is not narrowing, but widening.

This is an acute problem. This problem cannot be solved without reducing the enormous burden of armaments. For only disarmament can release those enormous additional resources necessary to overcome the economic backwardness of the developing states.

[Tsoppi] You know, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich, I have just been listening to what you were saying and this crossed my mind. We are talking about peace, saying that peace is necessary for development, and that the development of the underdeveloped countries will bring about an improvement in the international situation. Sometimes, or let us say all the time, we simply think that while attempting to prevent another world war and to ensure universal peace, we rarely recall that wars are still going on in the world. [sentence as heard] They are taking place in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. These wars shed blood, and they take away many human lives. All of them have arisen, in one way or another, through the fault of imperialism. All of them are continuing through the fault of imperialism. Today the task also consists of removing these regional conflicts or local wars from our modern history.

But first and foremost we are all, of course, thinking about Afghanistan, wondering when it will all end, and whether it will all end at all. There is more confidence now, in my view, that it will end and will maybe end sooner than we assumed not even so long ago. The program of national reconciliation in Afghanistan is currently becoming an ever more real process of reconciliation. This is despite all the actions of the international imperialist regional reactionaries who, as Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, said a few days ago, want Afghanistan to remain for as long as possible a bleeding wound on the planet. What are the grounds for hope?

First, the armed counterrevolution -- it may be asserted -- has already partially faltered in the face of the open, honest, and peace-loving policy of Kabul. In the ranks of this counterrevolution itself a kind of division is now developing. Doubts are arising, an aspiration is arising to respond positively to the overtures from Kabul. Manay of those who were dushmans yesterday have returned home and have become ordinary peasants and workers again. Today only the most aggressively inclined enemies of the people's revolution are refusing to respond to the proposal to set up a coalition on a political basis. They still imagine that it is within their powers to exclude the PDPA from the country's political life altogether. Why? Because the PDPA precisely expresses most fully the nationwide interests and the aspirations of all without exception, all democratically oriented and patriotic Afghans. Their main goal today is the end of the war.

Therefore one needs to compromise. In some villages and rayons this is already happening, so to speak, on a local level. Five ministers who worked under the previous regimes are already operatng peacefully and quite fruitfully in the government.

Najib says this directly: One will have to share power. Surely, there is no other way. What form of government will exist in Afghanistan after such a coalition is set up, it is difficult to say. In the opinion, by no means the final one, expressed at the plenum of the PDPA Central Committee plenum. There could be a presidency, and the president, at that, should not be a symbol of power but its real holder. The time has come to offer the present opposition, including the armed opponents, as they think in Kabul, specific measures and positions. This is extremely important.

So, I believe it is precisely on this platform, on the platform of this wide openness, on the platform of comprehensive agreement, that Afghanistan can at last acquire peace.

[Charikov] Only I believe, Viktor Aleksandrovich, that we should not belittle the force of resistance on the part of imperialism.

[Tsoppi] But naturally.

[Shishkin] Naturally.

[Charikov] Of course.

[Shishkin] Which is supporting...

[Tsoppi, interrupting] Today imperialism is increasingly involved in these matters and is increasingly interfering.

[Charikov] This act of sabotage, the downing of the passenger plane, is a proof of this. With the assistance of what?

[Tsoppi] Of course, yes.

[Charikov] With the assistance of a U.S. Stinger missile. It now has become clear that Britain is also supplying a great number of similar missiles. So it is not by any means a resolved question. Unfortunately blood is still being shed in Afghanistan.

[Shishkin] Again we encounter what we call the duplicity of U.S. foreign policy. While verbally advocating the cessation of the so-called local conflicts, the minor wars, it is really promoting their continuation and expansion.

[Charikov] And expansion. Of course.

So, comrades, the time of our program has come to an end. On behalf of its participants I thank you for your attention and bid you goodbye. Goodbye. All the best to you.

U.S. BELITTLES SIGNIFICANCE OF SOVIET INITIATIVES

LD221119 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 22 Jun 87

["U.S. Radio Services -- Promoting Disinformation and Enmity" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The more vigorously the Soviet "peace offensive" proceeds in the international arena, the more active certain quarters in the West, most notably in the United States, become in their attempts to belittle the significance of Soviet initiatives, twist their meaning and sling mud at socialism.

These goals are served by vast machinery for overseas propaganda in the United States. A special role in psychological warfare against socialism has been allotted to the radio service Voice of America and the West German-based subversive Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe.

The Voice of America's annual budget is close on 190 million dollars and it costs the American tax-payers another 170 million dollars to maintain Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe.

Washington has been setting aside ever more funds to modernize the radio services and build more relay facilities for them.

An agreement to build yet another relay station, this time on Israeli territory, was signed recently in Washington. Through that station, it was announced in the White House, "the reach and clarity of the Voice of America, Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe will be so significantly enhanced".

Let us not dispute the claim that the reach of the U.S. radio services would indeed be enhanced significantly with Tel Aviv's help, but as far as the "clarity" of their programs is concerned is another matter.

The Voice of America has long shown itself as a radio service specializing in disinformation about the home and foreign policies of the Soviet Union and other sovereign countries. One of its prime missions is to further Washington's hegemonist doctrine of "neo-globalism" by fair means or foul.

Here is just one characteristic example illustrating the methods used by the overseas "voice" to achieve the aim:

On the night from April 14 to 15, 1986, the night when the United States began aggression against independent Libya and American planes were bombing peaceful Libyan cities after taking off from British airfields, the Voice of America, billed as "an objective U.S. Government radio service", broadcast 15 times running a provocative "address" to the Libyan people which had clearly been prepared in advance and made an appeal for toppling Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In other words, an official radio service was used by the Pentagon's military and the C.I.A. to try and provoke terror and confusion in a sovereign Arab country whose policies happened to be disliked by Washington.

As far as Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe are concerned, these radio services funded by the C.I.A. and charged with preparing and committing acts of ideological sabotage do not shrink from airing the most vicious lies in a bid to prevent tensions from being relaxed and the arms race reversed, to smear socialism and to sow the seeds of hostility among nations.

Isn't it symbolical that this cultivation of lies and enmity is facilitated by the ruling circles of Israel who have for many years themselves acted as aggressors against sovereign Arab countries and peoples with Washington's military and economic support (U.S. financial injections to Israel since 1948 have amounted to 25 billion dollars)?

"With this signing, our special historical relationship will be given another dimension," Ronald Reagan said in a statement at the signing ceremony for the Israeli relay station site agreement.

Israel, the U.S. military and political bridgehead in the Middle East, has made every effort also before to spread and repeat Washington's false propaganda postulates.

Now it will definitely serve to an ever greater degree as a lever by dint of which anti-communist crusaders will be broadening the scope of psychological warfare against socialist countries and all forces of peace and progress.

REAGAN SAYS CONGRESS UNWILLING TO TACKLE DEFICIT

LD202224 Moscow TASS in English 2200 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Washington June 11 TASS — In his regular Saturday radio address President Reagan accused Congress of unwillingness to tackle the problems of the budget deficit. The dissatisfaction of the head of the White House was caused by the desire of legislators to check the growth in military expenditures and to preclude appropriation cuts for social programmes. In the President's opinion, any increase in expenditures for these programmes is an "irresponsible step". Delivering the reply of the Democratic Party to Reagan's radio address, Congressman Butler Derrick noted that the policy of confrontation chosen by the President did not contribute in any way to the solution of the deficit problem. The drafting of specific measures is needed rather than arbitrary handling of the U.S. economy, noted the congressman.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS ADMIRAL HAYES PRC VISIT

PM191201 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 87 Second Edition p 3

[Item from own information and TASS "Foreign Military News" roundup: "Visits"]

[Text] Admiral R. Hays, commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, who is visiting China, has been received in Beijing by Yang Shangkun, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and vice chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission. XINHUA reports that the day before the U.S. admiral had met with Yang Dezhi, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and chief of the Chinese Army General Staff.

PRAVDA REPORTS END OF BEIJING STUDENT BOYCOTT

PM191447 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Compromise Reached"]

[Text] Beijing, 17 Jun -- A compromise reached between students and the administration of Beijing has made it possible to end the students' 5-day boycott of lessons in the capital's Central Financial Institute. Approximately 600 students had organized the boycott in support of a demand for the removal from the institute's territory of the cigarette factory constructed there during the "Cultural Revolution," when the higher educational institution was closed down.

The Chinese central press reports that Zhang Baifa, deputy mayor of Beijing, came to a meeting with the students and gave them a promise that the factory will cease production in August and will be moved to another part of the city by the end of this year.

CHON TU-HWAN DECLARES 'READINESS FOR TALKS'

LD220826 Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo June 22 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vasiliy Golovnin reports:

Seeking to buy time and blunt the sharp edge of mass anti-government protests, the pro-American dictatorship in Seoul today declared "readiness for talks" with the opposition.

An official spokesman for the authorities said ruler Chon Tu-hwan was going in the next few days to have a "personal meeting" with the chairman of the reunification democratic party of Korea, Kim Yong-sam.

Chon hopes to win a promise from Kim "to exercise restraining influence" on the protests which have continued in the country for a fortnight. On separate days they involved up to 200,000 people.

Yesterday alone over 2,000 people were injured in violent clashes with police and more than 5,000 were arrested.

In return for an end to the anti-government demonstrations the ruling clique is promising concessions, such as the release of all protesters detained over recent days and a "resumption of dialogue" on possible changes to the constitution.

But the authorities are continuing to reject demands for an immediate presidential election by secret ballot and threatening, "if the instability persists", to declare martial law and give the police and army the right to use fire-arms against demonstrators.

Chon's newly-adopted line of talks is in complete agreement with "recommendations" coming from Washington. Speaking in an interview with NBC television, Gaston Sigur, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, made it clear that the Reagan administration would like to "appease" South Korea through a compromise between the regime and the legal opposition.

U.S Secretary of State George Shultz said recently, however, that Washington would not impose any sanctions against Seoul even if the latter declared martial law.

SOLTON COMMENTS ON SOUTH KOREAN UNREST

LD221454 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] And now Yuriy Solton will analyze the situation in South Korea:

For a month and a half now, the South Korean police have been trying in vain to put down turbulent anti-government actions with increasing aid from army units. In official reports from Seoul, the authorities claim that this is nothing but student unrest.

In fact, however, student turmoil is growing into a popular uprising. It has swept not only the country's capital, but also the second largest city, Pusan, where, on Sunday, veritable battles occurred. Spontaneous demonstrations flared up in other South Korean cities also.

The slogans of the popular movement are: Down with the dictatorial Chon Tu-hwan regime; We demand free elections; Americans go home. The Seoul regime is in panic. Washington is also worried. South Korea is an important American strategic beachhead where 40,000 United States troops are stationed, where nuclear weapons are deployed with short-range Lance missiles added to them of late.

The downfall of the dictatorial regime would put to doubt the possibility of the further American occupation of South Korea. President Reagan has sent a personal message to Chon Tu-hwan recommending not to react to street demonstrations excessively and display sufficient flexibility to calm people down by the promise of reforms. On Tuesday, United States Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur is arriving in Seoul. According to news agencies, his task is to find the possibility of maintaining Seoul's pro-American orientation with Chon Tu-hwan, or without.

The regime is threatening the people with emergency measures. It has already arrested over 10,000 persons, but greater repressions can only increase the people's wrath. Reactionary dictatorships find it increasingly hard to exist, even if they are supported by Washington's bayonets, money and protection. And South Korea is no exception.

CPSU'S KORNIYENKO MEETS JAPANESE CP CHAIRMAN

LD211019 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo June 21 TASS -- G.M. Korniyenko, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting in Tokyo on June 20 with Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan (CPJ).

Taking part in the meeting also were Mitsuhiro Kaneko, chairman of the secretariat of the CPJ Central Committee, and Hiroshi Tachiki and Yoshinori Yoshioka, members of the Standing Bureau of the Presidium of the CPJ Central Committee.

Also yesterday Korniyenko met with Takako Doi, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan.

The meetings were attended by N.N. Solovyev, ambassador of the USSR to Japan.

SERBIN COMMENTS ON SHULTZ, WEINBERGER TRIPS

PM221319 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jun 87 Second Edition p 5

["Commentator's Commentary" by Aleksandr Serbin: "Two Trips With But a Single Aim"]

[Text] Meetings between ASEAN foreign ministers and so-called "dialogue partners" -- representatives of the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the EEC -- have begun in Singapore. They are taking place immediately after the ASEAN foreign ministers' conference held there. Interest in these meetings is heightened by the fact that the United States, which is represented in Singapore by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, is going all out to try to prevent Southeast Asia becoming a nuclear-free zone.

It was the logic of the development of world events that brought the ASEAN states -- Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, and Brunei -- to the idea discussed in Singapore. Southeast Asia, where the consequences of U.S. aggression against Indochina are still felt, acutely needs the bases of peace to be consolidated and peaceful coexistence to be established among all the states forming part of it.

But that is precisely what the United States seeks to prevent. George Shultz, who went to Singapore via the Philippines, packed "arguments" against the creation of a nuclear-free zone in his political baggage. They boil down to it allegedly being difficult for the United States to counter "regional aggression and military threats" in Southeast Asia without atomic bombs. This concern over the region's "security" on the part of those who carried out aggression there during many years is pretty curious. But the United States is in no mood for jokes: After all, U.S. strategy in Southeast Asia is based on military strength, one of whose main components is nuclear weapons. In particular, the Pentagon, by common opinion, keeps them on military bases in the Philippines. And it is not fortuitous that Shultz, who made a stop in Manila, should have in his baggage further millions of dollars of "aid" whose aim is to influence the decision on the fate of those bases.

In Singapore, Shultz began by urging that Vietnam's isolation be maintained. The link between the appeal and the hope of obstructing creation of a nuclear-free zone is obvious. The setting of some Southeast Asian countries against others can only help the United States maintain its military presence there.

While George Shultz was heading for Singapore, another U.S. Administration figure, Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger, set off for a trip round the countries of the Asia-Pacific region. His intention there is to discuss, in particular, the problems of ANZUS, a bloc with one foot in the grave because of the stance adopted by New Zealand, which has banned American warships carrying atomic weapons from its shores. The existence of a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific, which the United States tried to prevent just as it now doing in Southeast Asia, remains a thorn in the flesh of U.S. policy.

SHEVARDNADZE, PLO'S QADDUMI HOLD TALKS

PM231005 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jun 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] On 22 June Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, foreign minister of the USSR, received a delegation of the PLO Executive Committee, led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department.

A thorough exchange of opinions on a broad range of topical problems of the present-day international situation was held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The sides noted the coincidence of the viewpoints on the questions discussed, underlined the need for pooling the efforts of all peoples to have a breakthrough in the course of affairs in the international scene and to channel it toward creating a nuclear weapons-free and nonviolent world, disarmament, and establishing a system of international relations dominated by the principles of respect for the legitimate rights of all states and peoples to an independent and autonomous choice of ways of development without foreign interference.

Special attention was paid to a detailed discussion of the situation in the Middle East and prospects for establishing durable peace in that region.

The whole course of events in the Middle East convincingly shows that the stake on the force of arms, on confrontation is untenable, said Eduard Shevardnadze. It only plays into the hands of the forces which would like to keep the Middle East in a permanent state of tension.

It is necessary to have a firm and daring turn to a collective quest for an honest and fair peace. This calls for soberly taking into account the existing realities, giving up customary stereotypes, boldness and a creative approach -- in brief, what we now call a new mode of political thinking.

The interlocutors expressed confidence that the way to a comprehensive and fair settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and its key, Palestinian, problem lies through the convocation of a competent international conference on the Middle East under the UN aegis with equal participation in it of all parties concerned, including the PLO, the states concerned, and the permament Security Council members.

The sides discussed the attempts to emasculate the content of the conference now, before the its convocation, to reduce its role to covering up separate negotiations, to deprive the PLO of the legitimate right to represent the Palestinian people there in order to defend its national interests. Emphasis was laid on the need to create favorable conditions for holding businesslike and constructive talks at the conference and for its adoption of decisions which take account of the interests of all the sides involved in the conflict.

In this regard attention was drawn to the fact that the conference must be prepared from the outset most thoroughly and by joint efforts. The initiative in this preparatory work could be taken by the permament members of the Security Council in accordance with the 41st UN General Assembly session's resolutions on this question.

The Soviet side underlined the importance of overcoming inter-Arab differences which complicate coordination of Arab actions, attainment of their efficient solidarity. [paragraph continues]

A special need for establishing close cooperation and interaction between the PLO and Syria, as well as other Arab anti-imperialist and national patriotic forces, has been noted.

E.A. Shevardnadze viewed in a positive light the results of the 18th Palestinian National Council session and stressed that the strengthening of the Palestinian ranks' unity is the guarantee of success in the struggle to realize the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate national rights to self-determination and the creation of their own state.

F. Qaddumit expressed the PLO leadership's profound gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet Government and people for their firm and consistent support for the Palestinian people's just cause and the active assistance to the processs of unification within the Palestinian movement.

An accord was reached on the continuation of regular Soviet-Palestinian contacts to discuss the position in the international arena and the situation in the Near East.

FURTHER ON SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION'S VISIT TO SYRIA

Exchange in Parliament

LD171541 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus June 17 TASS — Correspondents Vadim Shchennikov and Dmitriy Zelenin write:

"The exchange of parliamentary delegation between the Soviet Union and Syria promotes the further fruitful development of ties between our peoples," the chairman of Syria's parliament Mahmud al-Zu'bi said in Syria's People's Council today when addressing a visiting group of deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR headed by vice president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Arnold Ryuytel. "Friendship between members of parliament of the two countries is an inseparable part of Soviet-Syrian relations," he said.

Mahmud al-Zu'bi noted the big importance attached in Syria to this visit in the light of the result of the recent talks conducted by the president of Syria Hafiz al-Asad with Soviet leaders in Moscow.

"The Soviet Union and Syria," the head of the Syrian parliament stressed further, "have come out and continue coming out in a single front with other progressive and peace forces of the world for lasting peace and disarmament, for an all-embracing and just Middle East settlement: Syrian highly appreciate the USSR's principled and constructive foreign policy directed at preserving life on earth. The Syrian people supports the Soviet Union's important proposals to avert nuclear catastrophe and eliminate nuclear arms."

"We regard ourselves as a part of the world movement against imperialism's aggressive policy and neocolonialist enslavement, for victory of the forces of progress and national liberation. As we struggle for the lawful interests of Arab peoples and support the aspirations of Palestinians and Lebanese we feel the constant support of the Soviet Union, our big friend which is giving us unselfish aid and economic assistance. Despite military and political pressure and economic sanctions Syria will continue its policy of counteracting imperialist plots and will press for the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East. We reject all the capitulatory variants and schemes of a Middle East peace settlement set forth by the United States and its ilk," Mahmud al Zu'bi stressed.

In conclusion Mahmud al-Zu'bi said that the Syrian public showed much interest in the current changes in the life of the Soviet people and welcomed the process of restructuring in the Soviet Union.

During the meeting the members of parliament of the two countries had a detailed exchange of views on questions of Soviet-Syrian cooperation, the international situation and the situation in the Middle East.

The group of deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR were received today by the Syrian foreign minister Faruq al-Shar'a. Questions of bilateral cooperation between the USSR and Syria, the situation in the world and the Middle East region and some problems of mutual interest were discussed during the conversation that passed in a frank and friendly atmosphere. Both sides stressed the pressing need to convene an international conference on the Middle East to solve the conflict situation in that part of the world.

TASS Director General Sergey Losev, a member of the group of deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, conducted talks with top officials of Syria's mass media. Documents were signed on further developing cooperation between the TASS and the Syrian national agency SANA.

Ryuytel Departure Remarks

LD191421 Moscow TASS in English 1252 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus June 19 TASS -- By TASS correspondents Vadim Shchennikov and Dmitriy Zelenin:

A delegation of deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by Arnold Ryuytel, vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has completed a visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.

At Damascus international airport the Soviet parliamentarians were seen of by Mahmudd 'al-Zu'bi, speaker of the People's Council (parliament), deputies of parliament and other Syrian officials.

The send-off party also included the USSR's ambassador to Syria, Aleksandr Dzasokhov.

The head of the Soviet parliamentary delegation said before departure:

"On leaving friendly Syria, I would like first of all to express profound gratitude for the cordial reception and hospitality accorded our delegation."

"We concluded from the conversations in Damascus that the people of Syria and its leaders are resolved to follow the path of independence and progress, develop national economy and fight against imperialist and Zionist machinations.

In our opinion -- I think that the Syrian friends will agree to that -- the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's visit to Syria was useful.

We familiarized the Syrian leaders with the profound processes of restructuring in Soviet society, which will ultimately multiply the potential of peace and progress in the world at large.

At the same time problems facing Syri. in pursuing its independent course became clearer to us."

"It is important, and our delegation's visit confirmed that, that both the USSR and Syria, despite the high level of cooperation, are not going to stop at what has been achieved.

We have substantial reserves for strengthening and perfecting diverse ties practically in all areas.

To set them fully into motion is the duty of all our nations. There is firm understanding that the consolidation of Soviet-Syrian interaction will hinder the implementation of aggressive expansionist designs of imperialism in the Middle East and strengthen the positions of forces in the region which come out for defusing the Arab-Israeli conflict on a fair basis."

The Soviet parliamentarians, at a press conference on Thursday, described the latest developments in the USSR. They spoke about profound changes in the Soviet people's life, about goals and objectives of the reconstruction drive currently under way in the Soviet Union, and achievements with which the Soviet people were going to mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The deputies detailed the Soviet Union's latest foreign policy initiatives and answered questions put by journalists.

TASS Director-General Sergey Losev, a member of the delegation, met Syrian information minister Yasin Rajjuh. They discussed issues of cooperation between the two countries in the field of information.

The Syrian minister said about the results of the recent meeting of the non-aligned information ministers in Harare. [as received]

They also considered questions connected with the coverage of the forthcoming Soviet-Syrian space mission.

The Soviet delegation left for Moscow today.

Further Coverage

For reportage on a parliamentary delegation's visit to Syria led by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Presidium, see the 17 June Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Return to Moscow

LD191821 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 19 TASS -- A delegation of deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by Arnold Ryuytel, vice president of the Supreme Soviet's Presidium, returned from the Syrian Arab Republic to Moscow today.

The delegation stayed in Syria on a visit at the invitation of the Syrian People's Council (Parliament).

The deputies were met at Moscow's airport by Avgust Voss, chairman of the Soviet of the Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials.

DOCUMENTS SIGNED AT END OF KATUSHEV VISIT TO SYRIA

PM230855 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Excerpts] Damascus, 20 Jun -- The Soviet-Syrian talks have been fruitful and have contributed to further development of friendly relations between our countries, Saba Baqjaji, Syrian minister of state for planning affairs and head of the Syrian delegation to the ninth session of the Soviet-Syrian Standing Commission for Economic and Scientific and Technical Cooperation, said in a conversation with your TASS correspondent. [passage omitted]

At the closing commission session the sides signed an intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in building the "Tishrin" hydroelectric power plant on the Euphrates with the capacity of 500,000 kilowatts and also the protocol of the ninth session of the Standing Commission for Economic and Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

The Soviet delegation left for home yesterday.

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON SYRIAN ASTRONAUTS' TRAINING

JN192033 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] (Petr Klimok), deputy director of the Yuriy Gagarin Center for training cosmonauts in Moscow, has affirmed that the two Syrian cosmonauts, Muhammad Faris and Munir Habib, are physically qualified to perform the joint Syrian-Soviet space flight on 22 July, according to a report from the center's medical committee. In a statement to TASS, (Klimok) said the two Syrian cosmonauts made an excellent adaptation to the unfamiliar climate. He also said they are continuing their daily training in the cosmonauts training center to prepare for unexpected events during their flight in outer space. He said all the missions to be performed in the orbiting center have been carried out accurately on the training apparatus in the center. He also said the first Syrian-Soviet crew is made of up two Soviet cosmonauts, pilot Aleksandr Victorenko and eng Aleksandr Aleksandrov, and the Syrian pilot and cosmonaut Muhammad Faris. The second crew is made up of pilot Anatoliy Sologvyev and eng Viktor Savinykh and Syrian pilot and cosmonaut Munir Habib.

YAR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS HELD IN MOSCOW

PM191140 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Consultations at the USSR Foreign Ministry"]

[Text] Soviet-North Yemeni political consultations were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on 16 June, with the participation of V.F. Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister, and 'A. al-K. al-Iryani, deputy foreign minister of the Yemen Arab Republic. Questions of bilateral relations, the Near East situation, and other international problems of mutual interest were examined.

ROOTS, STATUS OF MIDEAST CONFLICT ANALYZED

PM181353 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 87 p 14

[Article by political observer Igor Belyayev: "The Near East: A Hundred-Years' War?"]

[Text] There is still no peace in the Near East. On the contrary, the situation remains as explosive as ever. Israel, victor in the war which flared 20 years ago in June 1967, still occupies the West Bank of the River Jordan, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and the Gaza Strip. Another Israeli-Arab war could erupt there at any time.

What Do the Israelis Want? [subhead]

Does Israel want peace with the Arabs? To my great regret, I can find no encouraging answer in the Israeli newspapers, weeklies, or journals....

While working in Beirut I regularly listened to Voice of Israel programs broadcast in English and Russian. Its broadcasts did not contain even a hint that Israel would at any time release all the Arab lands it seized 20 years ago. First, because these are allegedly primordial Israeli lands -- "Eretz Israel." Back in the past they belonged to the ancient Jewish states, and consequently so-called "historical right" -- invented in Tel Aviv -- allegedly entitled Israel to keep both its feet firmly planted in these territories. No harm is done -- as Israeli politicians and military believe -- by the fact that no one recognizes this "historical right" today. Things will change with the passage of time. Therefore, everything is decided by a policy of faits accompli. There is a well-known resolution by the Israeli Knesset (parliament) to annex East Jerusalem to Israel. Let me recall that, under the terms of the armistice signed by Israel and several Arab states following the 1948-1949 war, West Jerusalem remained in Israel and East Jerusalem, where the holy places of Muslims, Christians, and Jews are concentrated, remained with the Arabs. Immediately after June 1967, as if afraid of being too late, the Knesset unilaterally declared the "Holy City," which is the name of Jerusalem translated from Arabic, to be Israel's sole and indivisible capital -- "for all time." Later on, and just as unilaterally, the Knesset decided the Golan Heights, belonging to Syria, were also "part" of the State of Israel.

The creeping annexation of the West Bank of the River Jordan is continuing. Israeli settlements are being created there (there are already more than 100 of them) as Israel's formal strongholds. Their residents are armed, and there are heavy machineguns on the roofs of all buildings. The settlers' homes are illuminated by powerful spotlights at night. Regardless of which government is in power, Tel Aviv gives not a single thought to the fact that the Palestinian Arabs's lands, confiscated by the military occupation authorities ("for defense needs" in formal terms), will have to be at some time returned to their primordial owners. Even though there is a precedent for this. This is perhaps the sole positive feature of the separate accords reached between Egypt and Israel at Camp David. When the Israeli Army withdrew from the Sinai Peninsula following the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace "treaty" (in March 1979), the Israeli settlement of Yammit, the only one to be established there, was destroyed. And that was done despite a noisy campaign by extremists in Israel, who insisted on its retention....

Ask any casually encountered Israeli in Tel Aviv, where no Arabs have lived for a long time now, or in Haifa, where there are increasingly few of them, or in West Jerusalem, how they imagine the future of the occupied territories, and almost every one will reply that there is no question of any complete return of Arab lands seized in June 1967. [paragraph continues]

There simply cannot be anything of the sort, no matter what the political climate may be. The formula of "exchanging territory for peace" which could be heard from politicians in Israel immediately following the 1967 war has been long forgotten. Totally! Yes, the Israelis did entertain such goodwill sometime in the past but, you know, the Arabs failed to take advantage of it. What claims can they have against Israel? Those who advocated the return of Arab territories 10-15 years ago have now taken different positions....

Some 60-70 percent of Israelis, and maybe even more, firmly advocate the "retention," in other words the annexation, of seized Arab lands. And they also advocate that peace with the Arabs, preferably in the course of separate talks with each individual bordering Arab country, be based on anything but the foundations of justice.

People may raise the objection that the policy of "hawk" politicians like General Sharon or Shamir is not the only policy in Israel. Indeed, there are people there who think and reason soberly. Their numbers are growing. They realize Israel will be unable to survive without peace with the Arabs. Yes, there are such people there. Not just individuals but political groupings and even organizations advocating a just peace with the Arabs and even the creation of a Palestinian Arab state. I have had the opportunity to meet many of them, both in Israel and elsewhere. I want to give due credit to these people's political courage. Despite systematic anti-Arab propaganda, even inside the Knesset, they advocate a political settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Arab problems. They include deputies from the Israeli Communist Party struggling for Israel's unconditional withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and representatives of other political parties and groups.

At the same time, one more and more frequently reaches the conclusion that the strong antiwar moods generated by the lost war in Lebanon are gradually withering away. Yes, withering. Although the number of advocates of the settlement of Israeli-Arab problems is still growing, this growth is not sufficient to exert a decisive influence on Israel's policy. This policy is determined, just as in the past, by the establishment. It remains, just as in the past, aggressive and rapacious.

Israel does not have its own General de Gaulle who, shouldering complete military-political responsibility, could firmly say: Enough fighting. We don't need a second Lebanon! It is time to establish relations with the Arabs, primarily with the countries bordering on Israel.

Prime Minister Shamir is still categorically opposed to the convening of an international conference on the Near East under UN auspices and attended by all interested sides, including the PLO and the five permanent Security Council members. Present Foreign Minister Peres verbally advocates a conference, and some people in Israel esteem him as a peacemaker. His political stance tends to give the appearance of being inclined toward peace with the Arabs and even some sort of solution to the Palestinian problem. But what sort of solution? So far, there has been no precise and clear answer to this question. Peres says one thing today but is likely to say something else tomorrow.

I do not wish to deal fully with Abba Eban's present stance. It is no longer decisive. He now heads a Knesset commission dealing with foreign policy and defense. I well remember Eban in 1967, foreign minister at the time, ebulliently celebrating the victory over the Arabs. He felt time had stopped. Only a former minister now, he failed to heed at the time the words of Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, who uttered the prophetic phrase: "The Israelis will never overcook the fruit of victory in the June war...."

Of course, Eban's reasoning today differs from his reasoning in 1967. For example, on 10 June in that memorable year, when the Soviet Union broke off all relations with Israel as a sign of protest against Israeli aggression, he expressed no regret at what had happened and ecstatically predicted that the Russians would come back begging to resume relations....

Today it is he, Eban, who is begging for the resumption of Israeli-Soviet diplomatic relations: Israel needs them as much as it needs the air that it breathes. And he even promises an invitation to the Soviet Union in a Near East settlement.

Peres reasons differently. In payment for Israel's consent to our participation in an international conference on the Near East he demands the observance of certain preconditions. The USSR must, must, must.... In particular, it must offer "free emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel."

Actually, why "must" the Soviet Union do anything? We did not start the war on 10 June 1967 — it was started by the Israelis with wittingly agreed support from the United States. By decisive measures at the time the Soviet Union got it stopped on 15 June. Had this not happened, Israel would have done far more irreparable damage. No one can tell who would have had to regret that....

The Soviet Union does not owe anything to anyone in the Near East. Peace is the only goal we are pursuing in the region. This is why those who are in charge of Israeli policy today would be acting wisely if they were to start seriously taking into account the Soviet Union's legitimate state interests there. After all, the Near East is adjacent to our southern borders.

So far, there has been an evident shortage of wisdom in Israel.... Quite recently, in May 1987, Peres spoke against the Soviet Union's participation in an international conference on the Near East, having evidently and deliberately "forgotten" who was the initiator of the idea to convene it. An accident? No! U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz immediately supported his Israeli colleague. So this is the source of the icy wind which is still freezing any movement toward an all-embracing Near East settlement....

Now, 20 years after the June 1967 victory, General Dan Shomron, chief of Israel's General Staff, is thinking of a new war against Syria. Let me remind readers that the military in Israel, even though they constitute an enormous force, are nevertheless subordinate to the politicians' decisions, to the establishment's imperative recommendations.

D. Shomron's safe also contains plans for several other Israeli wars -- against Jordan, and against Egypt if it forgets its Camp David pledges. Wars, wars, wars! New thinking as regards approaches toward the solution of Near East problems is unknown to Israeli politicians and the military. It looks as if the Israelis will simply be unable to extricate themselves from the vicious circle of military confrontation with the Arabs. The immoral occupation of Arab territories seized in June 1967 is part of this circle.

Why is the Israeli establishment so cruel toward the Israeli people? Have they not had enough with the Israeli-Lebanese war which, incidentally, is still going on? Are thousands more Israelis to die to future wars? What senseless cruelty! Pity the Israeli people with such intractable rulers. After all, their stubbornness condemns the people to new sacrifices....

What Do the Arabs Want? [subhead]

In order to obtain an answer to this question, I decided to turn to the "Arab man in the street" this time. This term is used in Egypt, Syria, and other Arab countries. "Man in the street" covers more than just ordinary people in various countries. The "man in the street" represents a large proportion of the population of a vast city or a tiny village. In any Arab state. So, how does the "Arab man in the street" perceive events in the Near East?

I have before me a rather curious document. The editorial office of the Saudi weekly AL-MAJALLAH, published in London, sent out about 2,000 questionnaries containing questions on the Near East situation. They were addressed to those who make up the "man in the street" from the Persian Gulf in the east, where the Iran-Iraq war is still going on, to Morocco in the west. Questionnaires were also sent to Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, and to other countries which are rarely mentioned when the region's problems are discussed.

Eventually the editorial office received just over 500 replies to the questions it asked, which is not all that bad. The Arabs are not used to opinion polls. Most of the replies -- 66 percent -- were from Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Lebanon, and Morocco, with 34 percent coming from Syria, the Persian Gulf countries, and Algeria. Replies to the questionnaire arrived back as far as Mauritania. What was the result? Highly curious and even unexpected.

The first question: "Do you support the political settlement plan that has been offered to the region?" (Meaning the Fes Plan, put forward by Saudi Arabia in 1982. It is based on a solution of the Palestinian problem and all other problems in the Near East.)

The idea of a political settlement under the Fes Plan was not backed by 344 of the 500 polled (69 percent). Only 156 people, 31 percent of those polled, are in favor. Some of the replies could be interpreted as indirect backing for a political settlement, even though they spoke simply of "a settlement."

It is noteworthy that the editorial office, being in touch with the trend of the mood of the "Arab man in the street," also asked the following question: "What are the prospects? A general war against Israel? Arab partisan actions inside and outside the occupied territories? Maybe the convening of an international conference on the Near East under UN auspices?

These questions were answered by 344 people, of whom 199 (in other words 58 percent) saw the way out in a general war against Israel, with 95 people or 28 percent advocating partisan actions in the occupied territories. Only 49 of those polled, representing 14 percent, backed an international conference on the Near East.

There you have the stance of the "Arab man in the street" -- the result of many Arabs' mistrust in Israel's love for peace. And on what is any such trust to be based? The years of immoral occupation of Arab lands, the establishment of Israeli settlements on them, the creeping annexation of parts of these territories, and the refusal to deal with the PLO prove the contrary. And the general anti-Arab mood in Israel does not help the development of trust in the Israelis. The Arabs are unwilling to and will not capitulate. I am convinced that the present mood of the "Arab man in the street" is the direct result of Israel's policy, even though responsible Arab politicians are inclined in favor of convening an international conference on the Near East.

The questionnaire also contained a question touching the soul of all believers: "Do you believe East Jerusalem will be returned to Arab sovereignty in the 20th century?"

This question was answered by all recipients of the questionnaire except one. This one person wrote in reply that he refused to answer the question since he does not separate East Jerusalem from the other occupied Arab territories. The number of those who believe East Jerusalem will be returned to Arab sovereignty by the end of the 20th century was 161, or 32 percent, with 338 people, or 68 percent, of those polled answering this vitally important question in the negative.

Here is another interesting question about perceptions of the present political situation in the Near East: "What is the scale of political priorities for the Arabs? 1. The Palestinian problem. 2. The war or internecine fighting in Lebanon. 3. The southern Sudan problem. 4. The West Sahara problem. 5. The Iran-Iraq war. 6. The split within the Arab world. 7. The need to take measures to overcome the split."

All those polled replied to this question. It is universally held that without any doubt the Palestinian problem ranks first among pan-Arab problems. Some 40 percent of those polled ranked it most important. Second came the problem of the split in the Arab world. Third was the Iran-Iraq war with 12 percent of the votes. (I found this somewhat unexpected — I.B.) Fourth came the internecine fighting in Lebanon with 11 percent, followed by the political squabble tearing the Arab world apart with 10 percent. The problem of West Sahara gained 4 percent of the votes, and the problem of southern Sudan just 1 percent.

The "6-day" war in June 1967 distorted not just the economic, social, and revolutionary processes in Arab countries. It also disfigured the ordinary way of life of people by the tens of millions. The high prices and low wage rates in the Arab world have made it not all that easy to, for example, start a family.

I would like to draw attention to two facts enshrined in the replies to the AL-MAJALLAH questionnaire. The first fact is that not a single person among those polled called for the destruction of the Israeli state. Israel is a reality.

The second fact is that the Arabs intend to fight for their national rights and their dignity — both human and political. I am convinced these two facts are a sign for people in Israel to draw the necessary conclusion from what has happened. It is time to take advantage of the new realities and take a decisive step toward peace in the Near East.

This is the picture in a brief outline. These are the depressing future prospects for peace in the Near East without the convening of an international conference on the Near East attended by all interested sides including the PLO.

Could it be that the time has come to start talking of a "100-years' war" between Israel and the Arabs? I close my mind to such terrifying thoughts. But where is the light at the end of the "Near East tunnel?" In whose hands does it lie if not in the politicians' hands?

I have already mentioned that hitherto Israeli politicians have been stubbornly resisting the convening of an international conference on the Near East. They prefer separate deals with those Arab leaders who are prepared to conclude such deals right away. But there are no Arab politicians capable of betraying pan-Arab interests in the confrontation with Israel.

The United States, or at least the present administration, has no desire to change horses in the Near East. Just like in the past, it is still relying mainly on Israel, and this has already forced several influential Arab leaders to lean increasingly in the direction of West Europe. Like, for example, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, author of the well known plan for a Near East settlement which was adopted by the pan-Arab summit conference in Fes in 1982. He, just like the other Arab leaders, is aware of how difficult -- if not impossible -- it is to force Israel to accept the Fes settlement plan under contemporary conditions. This may be why some of them appear willing to postpone a settlement. But for how long? Let future generations tackle it, they say. (But only confidentially, of course.) But neither King Fahd nor those who follow him are prepared to accept humiliating conditions.

Under these circumstances, the accumulation of combustible material in the Near East as a result of ongoing wars and confrontation with the Arabs -- be it Syria or Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, or any other Arab country -- is fraught with unpredictable consequences.

What Do We Want? [subhead]

The convening of an international conference on the Near East, to be attended without fail by all interested sides, including the PLO and the permanent members of the UN Security Council. Of course, there will be no peace in the region until there is an end to the Israeli occupation of all Arab lands seized in June 1967, the creation of a Palestinian Arab state, and an end to Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy toward its Arab neighbors. Hence our efforts aimed at convening the conference in question as soon as possible, not for the purpose of toying with separate deals in the Camp David mold, but for achieving real peace and a genuinely just settlement.

ZHAO ZIYANG ARRIVES IN PAKISTAN FOR TALKS

LD211826 Moscow TASS in English 1812 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 21 TASS -- Zhao Ziyang, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, arrived in Pakistan today on an official four-day visit.

He will have talks with the country's President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

YELTSIN MEETS WITH DRA PROVINCIAL DELEGATION

LD192138 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2104 GMT 19 Jun 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast; announcer-read report]

[Text] Comrade Yeltsin had a meeting today with a provincial delegation from Afghanistan led by Razmjo, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Kabul City party committee. There was discussion on issues relating to the further deepening of all-round friendly ties between Moscow and Kabul.

Mangal, DRA Ambassador to the USSR, also took part in the conversation.

UNITA 'BANDITS' TO RECEIVE MORE AID FROM U.S.

PM221057 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jun 87 First Edition p 3

[V. Vinogradov "Military-Political Commentary": "Weapons for Bandits"]

[Text] First, a quotation: "Washington has responded very positively to our requests and has confirmed that it will carry out urgent supplies of weapons of the required type and number to us." These words belong to the not-unknown J. Chitunda, one of the closest aides of Jonas Savimbi, leader of the anti-Angolan terrorist group, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. And he spoke them at the end of a visit to the United States, where he, one of the leaders of the Angolan terrorists, was received by very high-ranking officials of the administration and the CIA.

As became clear very quickly, Chitunda had every justification for such an optimistic statement. Washington needed only a few days to decide to supply additional military supplies to the UNITA fighters, who, as is well known, are waging an armed struggle against the Angolan Government. Citing American officials, THE NEW YORK TIMES reported that the United States had decided to increase its military supplies, in particular shipping them new consignments of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

According to the newspaper, last year alone the Reagan administration sent the anti-Angolan group arms and military hardware worth more than 15 million dollars. Thus, the newspaper writes, Chitunda was promised in Washington that this level will be surpassed this year and that the trend will be maintained in the next fiscal year. Moreover, these resources, as THE NEW YORK TIMES observes, are allocated out of the CIA budget, which discharges the administration of the need to obtain congressional approval for such military supplies.

The haste with which Chitunda crossed the Atlantic and the dispatch with which Washington responded to the terrorist's request have, of course, their own explanation. The UNITA bandit formations have suffered one defeat after another of late. The People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA), relying on the population's support, have carried out successful operations in a number of regions of the country, during which Savimbi's "army" was so seriously mauled that it was forced to pull back to the Namibian border. That is why, to avoid being completely routed, UNITA sent its emissary to Washington for new injections of finance and new consignments of weapons.

It should be stressed that in sending weapons to UNITA, Washington, as in many similar such cases, is pursuing its own ends. By means of UNITA fighters in Angola, bandits from the Mozambique National Resistance grouping in Mozambique, the dushmans in Afghanistan, and the contras in Nicaragua, the United States is waging an undeclared war against the legitimate governments in those countries and seeking to overthrow them. This is being done in order to restore imperialist and neocolonialist control as far as possible to countries or even regions previously lost.

Moreover, it can scarcely be considered mere coincidence that Savimbi headed off to Pretoria immediately upon learning the results of Chitunda's talks in Washington. There he coordinated plans for further operations against people's Angola with his South African masters. It is noteworthy that six South African battalions massed on the Angolan-Namibian border have drastically stepped up their provocative operations and begun carrying out raids on Angolan territory.

The UNITA gangs, paid by the White House, trained by South African instructors, and equipped with American weapons, are sowing death and destruction on Angolan soil, trying by every means available to thwart the process of building a new life there. The terrorists, whose standard depicts a black cock, are blowing up schools, hospitals, workshops, and factories, burning crops, and destroying livestock. Hundreds and thousands of innocent people have perished at their hands. And Washington tries to present these out-and-out cut-throats as a some sort of "freedom fighters." And not only presents them as such but also gives them financial and military aid.

This is tellingly illustrated by the results of the visit to Washington by one of UNITA's ringleaders. Washington is deliberately closing its eyes to the fact that this "aid" is impeding the stabilization of the situation in Angola and becoming a source of new suffering for the Angolan people. There they clearly think that the end justifies the means. But the calculations of the bandits' imperialist protectors are doomed to fail. The people of Angola are fully resolved to sweep all the UNITA vermin from their land. And neither American dollars nor American Stingers will help the latter.

CHAD'S HABRE ASKS REAGAN FOR MORE MILITARY AID

LD200842 Moscow TASS in English 0628 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Washington June 20 TASS -- President Reagan on Friday had a meeting at the White House with head of the Chad regime Hissein Habre, now on a visit to the United States. Hissein Habre requested from the President additional military aid.

Upon completion of the meeting journalists were told by a White House spokesman that Washington intended to continue its present-day programme of military aid to Ndjamena, keeping it at an annual level of 35-45 million dollars.

The Washington administration used Habre's stay in the United States for new gross attacks on Libya, neighbouring on Chad.

LESOTHO AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS IN MOSCOW

PM220745 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jun 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Presentation of Credentials"]

[Text] Bishop Austin Tlelase, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Lesotho, presented his credentials to R.-B.I. Songayla, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in the Kremlin 18 June.

After the presentation of credentials and an exchange of speeches, a friendly conversation took place between R.-B.I. Songayla and B.A. Tlelase.

GDR DELEGATION ARRIVES HEADED BY MITTAG, STOPH

LD222056 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Jun 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A GDR party-government delegation arrived in Moscow today in line with an accord. The delegation consists of Guenter Mittag, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the Central Committee; Willi Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; Guenter Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; and other comrades.

At the airport the delegation was met by Comrades Ryzhkov, Zaykov, Slyunkov, and other officials. [video shows men emerging from plane, Ryzhkov shaking hands with them, walking away from plane ahead of rest of group with one of the Germans by his side; Zaykov and Slyunkov can be seen behind them with other men]

[East Berlin ADN International Service in German at 1703 GMT on 22 June reporting on the arrival of the GDR delegation, notes: The delegation was very cordially welcomed at Vnukovo Airport by CPSU Central Committee Politburo members Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Lev Zaykov, Central Committee secretary, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Nikolay Slyunkov, CPSU Central Committee member Aleksey Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials. The ambassadors from both countries, Gerd Koenig and Vyacheslav Kochemasov, were also present.]

GDR'S HONECKER, ANTONOV DISCUSS ECONOMIC TIES

PM191453 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Increasingly Strong Cooperation"]

[Text] Berlin, 18 Jun — E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has received A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is in Berlin on a working visit.

The sides discussed progress in implementing USSR-GDR accords in the economic, scientific, technical, and foreign trade spheres. It was unanimously noted that a high level of collaboration has been achieved between the USSR and GDR national economies and that the tasks defined by the Long-Term Program for the Development of USSR-GDR Cooperation in the Sphere of Science, Technology, and Production for the Period Through 2000 and by the Integrated Program for the Scientific and Technical Progress of CEMA Countries Through 2000 are being implemented.

Having discussed their experience of using new forms of cooperation, the sides stated that direct links between associations and enterprises in the USSR and combines and enterprises in the GDR are the most effective form of cooperation in science, technology, and production.

PRAVDA GIVES SOLOVYEV GDR VISIT OVERVIEW

PM151406 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jun 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Sister City Links"]

[Text] Berlin, 11 Jun -- Yu.F. Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad CPSU Obkom, visited the GDR 7 through 11 June.

He had a conversation in Berlin with H. Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, during which the guest gave a report on the work of the Leningrad Oblast party organization in implementing the decisions of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

Emphasis was placed on the fundamental importance for the fate of peace of the initiatives put forward by the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee conference in Berlin, initiatives whose implementation is the most important task of CPSU and SED foreign policy activity. It was noted that the recent meeting between M.S. Gorbachev and E. Honecker, general secretaries of the two parties' Central Committees, in Berlin gave fresh impetus to the comprehensive development and deepening of the fraternal ties between the USSR and the GDR.

The Leningrad CPSU Obkom first secretary visited Dresden, with which Leningrad has long-standing sister-city ties. In the conversations with the leaders of the SED Bezirk committee special attention was paid to the establishment of direct ties between associations and enterprises in Leningrad and its oblast and Dresden Bezirk and to the development of scientific and technical cooperation. A friendship rally addressed by Yu.F. Solovyev was held at an electrical machine building association in Dresden.

FURTHER ON EVENTS DURING SHEVARDNADZE'S SFRY VISIT

SFRY Briefing

LD201723 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Jun (TASS) -- The official friendly visit by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, will serve the further development of Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation both in the area of bilateral ties and in deepening mutual understanding and cooperation in international affairs. This was stressed today at a briefing for foreign journalists at the SFRY Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

It was pointed out that the visit has confirmed the lasting and permanent significance of the principles of the Belgrade Declaration and the Moscow Statement as the foundation for bilateral relations as well as the fact that both sides respect the differences which exist in the international positions and the internal development of both countries.

Note was taken at the briefing of the important significance of the meeting and of the talks between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Milanko Renovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, in December 1986 for the development of comprehensive Soviet-Yugoslav relations.

New Consular Convention

LD200934 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0920 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Jun (TASS) -- A new consular convention was signed in Belgrade today in the Palace of the Federation. It was signed for the Soviet side by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, who is in Yugoslavia on an official friendly visit, and for the Yugoslav side by Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs.

Soviet Aktivs' Meetings

LD201948 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 20 Jun 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In Belgrade today there was a meeting of the aktivs of the party organizations of Soviet institutions in Yugoslavia. The meeting was devoted to the tasks of Communists in fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee's January plenum. A report was delivered at the meeting by Comrade Shevardnadze.

TANJUG Interview

LD211312 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0824 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Belgrade, 21 Jun (TANJUG) -- "It is with great optimism that we look upon the prospects for the further development of Yugoslav-Soviet relations and cooperation. Both sides showed wisdom at the time by adopting solutions that enabled our countries to overcome the accumulated relics of the past and successfully develop mutual relations. Contacts between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia are developing in a uniform, stable, and mutually beneficial fashion, based on the principles of equality and mutual respect."

This was stated by Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR foreign minister and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, in his interview to TANJUG, replying to a question on the prospects for relations between the two countries.

"We noted this fact with satisfaction during the talks with Yugoslavia's leaders, said Shevardnadze. Talking about it, I cannot but give recognition to Comrades Milanko Renovica, Lazar Mojsov, Branko Mikulic, and my friend Raif Dizdarevic for their exceptionally substantial information and also our open and substantial talks. This quality of our dialogue bears witness to the raising of our relations to a new, higher level."

In the words of the Soviet foreign minister the tone of the talks was comradely and they passed in an atmosphere of cordiality and, as he put it, this did not stand in the way of discussing the existing problems and ways of overcoming them.

"We have agreed," said Shevardnadze, "on a vital need for reexamining traditional forms of scientific-technical and trade-economic cooperation during the period of reconstruction and consolidation of social, economic, and political institutions in our countries. We have not only noted this, but we also examined concrete and practical measures that will no doubt be realized."

"If I were to sum future prospects, I would say: If we achieved this much so far, then under new circumstances -- bearing in mind the processes under way in our countries -- we can advance more rapidly and securely."

"It is precisely such prospects that the Soviet leadership is oriented toward," said Shevardnadze.

In reply to the question on the international situation, the Soviet foreign minister said that "the alarming picture of the world is not a result of natural disasters. All problems are a product of human hands and minds. It seems as if all this can be easily rectified. But this not the case. Time passes, problems are exacerbated. Why is it so? In our opinion, this is because politicians and the political elite approach the reality of the nuclear-space era and its terrifying and fantastic possibilities with ideas from the past century."

Shevardnadze spoke in favor of new thoughts, first and foremost of the need to comprehend the dangers connected with the very existence of nuclear weapons.

"We reached the conclusion in the Soviet Union that the interests of our national security require the renunciation of nuclear weapons. This is the point of departure of the program of general scrapping of nuclear weapons proposed by Gorbachev. The Soviet-U.S. summit in Iceland showed that a nuclear-free world was a realistic expectation."

"It is necessary to resolve the problem of security in such a world," said the Soviet minister. "We have proposed a concept that offers a solution. By this I mean the idea of creating an all-embracing system of international peace and security. Its essence is a joint effort among states to work out a guarantee in support of peace. The basis -- tested and genuine -- exists. It is the UN."

"It is possible to formulate and work out a structure of security in a nuclear-free world only by the efforts of all states. Nonaligned countries, including Yugoslavia, could play a major role in this. I spoke about this with my colleague Raif Dizdarevic."

Dwelling on the topic on the activity of nonaligned countries, problems of development, and the securing of international political and economic relations on an equal footing, the USSR foreign minister said that the Nonaligned Movement can and should play the most active role in resolving important issues connected with security. In his opinion, the arms race is not the only illness of the modern world. For many people death from hunger, malnutrition, lack of necessary medical assistance, or pollution of the environment is closer than the one caused by nuclear weapons or even regional wars.

"It is harmful in every sense -- human, moral, and political -- to care only about those who are well-fed and healthy. Real security should provide adequate living conditions for every man.

"A question arises," said Shevardnadze, "as to how things should be done. An enormous amount of resources are necessary -- financial, intellectual, and others. Where to find them? We can have allocations from every possible source, but in the final analysis the necessary funds for development and resolving global problems can only be secured by reducing expenditure for military purposes.

"This is yet another argument in favor of the concept of creating a system of general security. In today's world everything is reciprocally linked and interdependent and a complex solution should be sought. All problems -- human rights, economic development, international relations on an equal footing, halting of the arms race -- can be resolved if the world is approached as one entity, a world in which the security and welfare of mankind are indivisible."

The following question referred to Soviet-U.S. negotiations in Geneva and prospects for a Gorbachev-Reagan meeting.

Shevardnadze stressed that there was a positive element in the decisions of the NATO countries in Reykjavik, but that at the same time this was "a step sideways from those accords that began to emerge after the meeting between Gorbachev and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Moscow.

"It is a question of trying to avoid, basically to step outside the framework of, a possible accord and to keep nuclear missiles, Pershing-1A's, in the FRG, more precisely their nuclear warheads, which belong to the United States and which are under its control. On our side, we are scrapping and destroying all the warheads of this range. The same should be done with U.S. nuclear missiles and warheads. It does not help to refer to the Pershing-1A missiles as being an alleged armament of a third party. If their nuclear warheads do not belong to the United States and if they are not under its control, then we have to deal with another matter: the violation of the accord on the part of the United States and the FRG on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

"This dilemma cannot continue: Either the Pershing-1A missiles are being used to block an accord on medium-range missiles, or a violation of the duties resulting from the 1963 accord is being concealed.

"We rightly expect," stressed Shevardnadze," that the United States will propose a denouncement that would allow a way out of the situation created by the recent decision of the NATO Council.

"There are still no grounds for talking about definite progress in the Geneva negotiations, though a certain step forward has been noticed.

"The logic behind this should be clear and understandable to everyone: If there is anything ambiguous from the point of view of possibilities of compromise in Geneva, it is equally uncertain that a summit will take place.

"If an agreement is reached, there will be a meeting. Without an agreement, it would be too early to say what to expect from the meeting."

At the end of the interview with TANJUG Eduard Shevardnadze expressed gratitude for his warm and cordial reception in Yugoslavia.

Departure, Dubrovnik Stop

LD201727 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1650 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Belgrade 20 Jun (TASS) -- The official, friendly visit by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of foreign affairs, to Yugoslavia ended today.

At Belgrade airport he was seen off by Raif Dizdarevic, SFRY federal secretary for foreign affairs, and by other officials.

On his way home Eduard Shevardnadze stopped over in Dubrovnik, where he got to know the town's attractions, and the monuments of history and culture.

Return to Moscow

LD211728 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR minister of foreign affairs, returned to Moscow today. He had paid official friendly visits to the Bulgarian People's Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, and the SFRY. He was met at the airport by Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

Results of Visit

LD212057 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Our correspondent Aleksandr Shakin reports from Belgrade:

[Shakin] The deepening of the Soviet-Yugoslav dialogue is, in short, the essence of commentaries concerning the visit paid here by Eduard Amvrosyevich Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs. Yugoslavia attaches exceptional importance to a successful development of relations with the Soviet Union, POLITIKA has written in connection with the visit.

The press notes the totally frank and friendly character of talks, as well as the warm and cordial atmosphere of meetings on Yugoslav soil. Talks have shown that both the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia actively cooperate, as socialist countries, in the world arena. The Soviet peace initiatives, our approach to disarmament questions, and the liquidation of medium-range missiles in Europe and the operational and tactical missiles are supported here. The Soviet Union sees in Yugoslavia one of the recognized leaders of the Nonaligned Movement, which assists improvement of the international situation and the averting of a nuclear disaster. In bilateral relations, the striving to strengthen the atmosphere of trust and respect for one another's interests and experiences have been expressed. Yugoslavia, with best wishes and with sympathy, follows the great work in restructuring all the spheres of life in Soviet society. Here success is wished for the restructuring. On the economic level, it has been noted that our relations have reached a high level. But now, the question is jointly finding solutions to problems which exist in the trade turnover, utilizing more broadly such modern forms as long-term cooperation, direct contacts between enterprises, and joint capital investment. Closer cooperation in key directions of science and technology lies ahead.

In the course of talks, it was stressed that a new impulse for the further development of the Soviet-Yugoslav relation, their elevation to a qualitatively higher level, was given by a meeting of Comrade Gorbachev and Comrade Renovica, president of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee. Milanko Renovica said that the Yugoslav people await Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to the SFRY and will give him a most cordial welcome.

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV, PRC'S ZHAO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS

LD191626 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Sofia June 19 TASS — Negotiations between Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and president of the State Council of Bulgaria, and Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and premier of the State Council of China, who arrived in Bulgaria on an official visit, started here on Thursday.

The leaders of the two countries exchanged information on the state and tasks of the social and economic development and discussed several pressing international issues. Special attention was given to an exchange of experience in implementing economic changes. T. Zhivkov pointed out that Bulgaria was attentively following the process of reforms in China and highly appraised their positive results. In turn, Zhao Ziyang also emphasized that Bulgarian experience of improving the mechanism of managing the national economy was of interest for his country and was very useful.

The sides positively assessed successes scored in expanding all-around relations between Bulgaria and China. At the same time they stated that the level of bilaterial trade did not conform to the existing potentialities. In this connection they pointed to the need for stepping up the trade exchange and looking for new efficient forms of cooperation, for instance establishment of joint ventures and deepening of co-production.

WARSHIPS VISIT ROMANIAN BLACK SEA PORT OF CONSTANTA

PM220813 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jun 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit by Ships"]

[Text] Bucharest, 17 June — A detachment of Soviet warships comprising the two large antisubmarine ships Azov and Krasnyy Kavkaz that is on an official, friendly visit here has been welcomed to the Port of Constanta by a national salute.

Vice Admiral V.Ye. Selivanov, chief of staff of the Black Sea Fleet, who heads the visit, met with G. Marinica, chairman of the Constanta Municipal People's Council Executive Committee.

A delegation of Soviet sailors laid wreaths at the Victory Memorial in Constanta and at memorials to Soviet soldiers and sailors who died in the fighting to free Romania from fascism and visited the Romanian Navy Museum in Constanta.

Exchanges Ashore

PM191019 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russia 19 Jun 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit Continues"]

[Text] Bucharest, 18 Jun 87 — The official friendly visit to the Romanian port of Constanta by a detachment of Soviet warships comprising the large ASW ships Azov and Krasnyy Kavkaz is continuing.

Vice Admiral V.Ye. Selivanov, commander for the voyage and chief of staff of the Black Sea Fleet, visited Vice Admiral I. Musat, commander of the Romanian Navy.

Romanian sailors and representatives of the Constanta Municipal People's Council and the city's public visited the Soviet warships. The Soviet sailors warmly greeted the visitors and showed them around the photographic exhibitions "V.I. Lenin — Founder of the Soviet State," "The Soviet Navy Guarding Peace and Socialism," and others.

ARRESTS MADE IN PRAGUE GRAVE DESECRATION CASE

PM220843 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jun 87 Second Edition p5

[TASS report: "Criminals Arrested"]

[Text] Prague, 16 Jun — According to CTK, members of the CSSR national security organs have arrested criminals who committed an act of vandalism 31 May at the Olsany Cemetery in Prague. It has been proved in the course of the investigation that the desecration of the graves of Soviet soldiers and Bulgarian antifascists who fell for the freedom of Czechoslovakia and are buried at the cemetery was the work of two previously convicted persons. The competent organs are continuing the inquiry.

CSSR'S COLOTKA VISITS LENINGRAD, ESTONIA

Speech in Leningrad

LD112240 Moscow International Service in Czech 1500 GMT 11 Jun 87

[Text] The Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology were ceremonially inaugurated yesterday in Leningrad. Aleksandr Sokolov, deputy chairman of the Leningrad Soviet, warmly welcomed the Czechoslovak Government delegation to the city of the Neva. At the opening ceremony of the Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology he noted that Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union have attained a high level of economic cooperation. The trade in 1987 between the two countries is to reach almost R14 billion and will help to make fuller use of the reserves of integration in the production, science and technological potentials of our fraternal countries.

In response Peter Colotka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and Czechoslovak deputy premier, who heads the Czechoslovak delegation, made a speech:

[Begin Colotka recording in Slovak] Dear comrades, esteemed Soviet friends: Allow me, on behalf of the Czechoslovak Government and our delegation, to welcome you most cordially to the opening of the Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology, and also to convey to you and all the citizens of the Hero City of Leningrad warm comradely greetings and sincere wishes of success on behalf of the working people of Czechoslovakia. [applause]

We are very glad that this important event is taking place in the 70th anniversary year of the Great October Socialist Revolution in your beautiful city, Leningrad, which is inscribed in our hearts as the cradle of the revolution, as a symbol of bravery and heroism, and of the struggle for the liberation of the working people, social justice, and a peaceful life.

Here in this historic city, which is do dear to us all, under the leadership of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the revolutionary proletariat, soldiers and sailors, where a new chapter in the history of mankind was begun, we realize even more fully the immense impact of Great October on the revolutionary process in the world, and its direct relevance to the growth of the Czechoslovak state, the development of our working-class movement, the emergence of bolshevization and the struggles of our Communist Party for the liberation of our nations and the victory of socialism in Czechoslovakia. The past 70 years have confirmed the viability and lasting validity of the ideas of the October Revolution which have been creatively developed in the present era by the 27th CPSU Congress and, inspired by the new Leninist approaches of the Soviet Communists, the 17th CPCZ Congress as well as by the congresses of the fraternal communist and workers' parties.

Last year's Soviet and Czechoslovak Communists' congresses demonstrated their loyalty to the legacy of Great October and provided new stimuli for the revolutionary restructuring of all aspects of the life of our countries. They set out the strategy of speeding up socioeconomic development, based on the broadest possible application of the results of science and technology and fuller exploitation of the creative powers, skills and initiative of the working people, bound up inexorably with the further developments of tried-and-tested as well as today's newly developing forms and manifestations of socialist democracy.

Dear friends, comrades, the Czechoslovak people, who were among the first victims of Hitlerite aggression, highly value the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union and the Soviet state, and fully support the proposals and initiatives made by the Soviet Union aimed at eliminating nuclear and other mass destruction weapons, preventing the militarization of space, and creating a comprehensive system of international security. The conclusions of the recent Berlin session of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee, which we support through our firm role and our work in strengthening the economic and defensive might of the whole socialist community, are new and long-term evidence of this effort by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

Dear friends, when we talk about ensuring a peaceful life for our peoples and the other peoples of Europe and the world, we refresh in our memory the fact that peace, the greatest asset in the existence of mankind, was achieved during World War II only at the cost of immense sacrifices. It is with great respect and gratitude that we bow to the memory of the Soviet heroes who laid down their lives, defending their socialist country, liberating Czechoslovakia and, in general, saving the world from fascist subjugation. Here in the Hero City of Leningrad I wish to take this opportunity to express our immense gratitude and respect for those defenders who, during the blockade [words indistinct] despite the threats and intentions of the militarist imperialist forces, strengthen our socialist world and raise it to new levels, and thus ensure the conditions for the peaceful and creative work not only of our but of all peace-loving peoples.

Comrades, I would like to conclude by sincerely thanking the party and state organs, and the Chamber of Trade and Industry in Leningrad for their all-around help and support in organizing this year's Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology. In opening them we thank you for your warm welcome, hospitality and cordial manifestations of friendship. As representatives of the Czechoslovak people we hope the citizens of Leningrad will elevate the glorious past of Lenin's city on the Neva with new and revolutionary feats.

We wish all the Soviet people great success in the revolutionary restructuring of society, on the road to new and convincing triumphs of socialism. We, your Czechoslovak friends, are proud to be able to fight alongside you, as your class brothers, to speed up the socioeconomic development of our and of the other socialist countries, to preserve and strengthen the peaceful life of the whole of mankind, (?and for peaceful understanding) among all peoples of mankind.

Dear friends, allow me to declare open the Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology in Leningrad! [preceding sentence in Russian] [applause] [end recording]

Interview in Leningrad

AU221947 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 12 Jun 87 pp 1, 7

[D. Stancek/CTK report: "Czechoslovak Government Delegation Visiting Estonia; Joining Our Forces With Greater Efficiency"]

[Excerpt] Leningrad/Tallinn -- The Czechoslovak Government delegation led by Peter Colotka, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member, CSSR deputy premier, and premier of the Slovak SR, which attended the opening of the "Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology" in Leningrad, departed Leningrad yesterday [11 June] by air for a friendly visit to the Estonian SSR. [passage omitted] Yesterday [11 June], prior to leaving Leningrad, Comrade Peter Colotka granted an interview to special CTK and PRAVDA reporters, in which he stated:

If we want to be successful in fulfilling our intentions, if we are to achieve top-level productivity, then we must join our forces with greater efficiency, as present times demand of us, and show greater courage in merging scientific, research, development, and production facilities. The present "Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology" in Leningrad — the first Soviet city to stage this significant action for the second time — are also meant to contribute toward this. This year these days are all the more significant, as they take place in the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October, and right in Leningrad.

We want to step up our efforts in searching for possibilities of production and scientific-technical cooperation, P. Colotka then recalled. Czechoslovak technicians, designers, technologists, and other experts will be exchanging knowledge and experience with their Leningrad colleagues within the framework of the "Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology," and also assessing ways to further develop specialization and cooperation. We expect this form of cooperation not only to make an economic contribution to both our fraternal countries, but also to contribute toward further consolidating friendship between Czechoslovak and Soviet people.

To raise our mutual cooperation to a qualitatively higher level, it is essential to develop direct relations between production and scientific-research organizations, and to develop the activities of joint ventures, enterprises, associations, or design collectives, Peter Colotka stressed. He appraised the fact that the 126 Soviet organizations with which Czechoslovak partners had concluded direct-relations agreements by the end of May 1987 include 21 enterprises and plants in Leningrad. For instance, the Elektrosila works in Leningrad and the CKD Elektrotechnika enterprise have agreed to jointly develop and produce electric revolving machinery for alternating current with outputs over and above 1000 kw.

Peter Colotka also highly appraised the course and results of his meetings and talks with the working people and representatives of Leningrad and of Leningrad Oblast.

Arrival in Tallinn

LD111245 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1000 GMT 11 Jun 87

[Text] The Soviet Union — Peter Colotka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, deputy federal premier, and premier of the Slovak SR, left Leningrad and arrived today in the capital of Estonia, Tallinn. Peter Colotka is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry in connection with the Days of Czechoslovak Economy and Technology, which are being held in Leningrad.

Talk with Saul, Departure

LD121908 Prague CTK in English 1636 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Text] Tallinn June 12 (CTK correspondent) — A Czechoslovak Government delegation led by Communist Party Presidium member, deputy premier and Premier of the Slovak Government Peter Colotka met here today with leading representatives of the Estonian Government headed by Premier Bruno Saul.

During their talks the two officials paid special attention to the restructuring of economic mechanisms in the two countries, application of new progressive forms of socialist economy, and also to economic and scientific-technological cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Estonia and the possibilities of its extension.

Peter Colotka stressed that this cooperation must be elevated to a qualitatively higher level, mainly through extensive industrial cooperation, expansion of direct contacts and joint ventures.

Both sides agreed on developing and deepening direct contacts in production and science and technology.

Later in the day the Czechoslovak delegation ended its friendly visit to Estonia and left here for home. Members of the delegation were seen off by Bruno Saul and other representatives.

KAPEK-LED CPCZ DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD150957 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0800 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] A delegation of the Prague CPCZ Committee led by Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and leading secretary of the Prague CPCZ Committee, arrived in Moscow today for a visit. In the Soviet capital they will familiarize themselves with results achieved in the implementation of the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress in Moscow conditions. They will also discuss possibilities for expanding cooperation between Prague and Moscow in the coming period.

FALIN DISCUSSES RUST CASE, POSSIBLE RELEASE

LD211040 Hamburg DPA in German 0940 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Bonn (DPA) -- The chief of the semiofficial Soviet press agency NOVOSTI, Valentin Falin, believes that the German pilot Mathias Rust may be able to return home before the start of Weizsaecker's visit to the Soviet Union on 6 July. In an interview with Radio Luxembourg (RTL) on Sunday, Falin said he hoped that the German pilot will not, therefore, be a topic in the talks by Weizsaecker in Moscow.

Falin, a former ambassador to Bonn, stressed that Rust's return depended not merely on the Soviets but above all on Rust himself and on the accompanying circumstances. Judging by his continuing good humor, it would appear that he regarded his detention as a "continuation of the whole adventure." Asked about the background to the landing, Falin said the he personally was inclined to take the view that the incident had "more to do with the personality of the young man than any political motive or political manipulators."

Falin expressed the hope that Rust's landing in Red Square would not have a negative effect on relations with the Federal Republic. It was fairly certain that Rust would be put on trial. He assumed that in passing sentence all factors would be taken into account and that "he would not be made an example of."

Falin said Weizsaecker's state visit from 6 to 11 July was especially welcomed because the Federal president was an "original and free thinker" and because he was in a position to listen to and understand the other side, which is very important. Weizsaecker represented a "great moral authority" and he, Falin, was certain that this authority would benefit relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic.

ANTI-U.S. MISSILE PROTEST IN BRITAIN REPORTED

LD182117 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Correspondent Vsevolod Shishkovskiy reports from London]

[Text] A demonstration was held in front of No 10 Downing Street, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's residence, by participants in Britain's antiwar movement. They resolutely protested the Conservative Government's plans to continue t' deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles at the Molesworth military base.

It has emerged that four more Tomahawk cruise missile installations were delivered to the base a few days ago. The British public appraises this fact as evidence of the hypocrisy of Washington and London, which, while verbally stating their readiness to strive for a reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe, are in practice continuing to build them up. Indeed, this is happening at a time when a new round of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons has opened in Geneva.

It is well known that there are now real opportunities to achieve the total elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone. However, one gets the impression that this prospect is not particularly to the liking of certain people in the West. The continuing deployment of U.S. nuclear death on Britain's soil is one of the latest instances confirming this conclusion.

PRAVDA ANALYZES ITALIAN ELECTION RESULTS

PM220811 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 87 Second Edition p 5

["Commentator's Column" by Nikolay Miroshnik: "Italy After the Election"]

[Text] Rome — In the opinion of many commentators here, the results of the early parliamentary election, which ended Monday and was preceded by a protracted and acute government crisis, have still not resolved the chief task of bringing to light a single leader within the framework of the five-party coalition which ruled previously.

And yet the leading members of this coalition — the Christian Democrats and Socialists — went into the election precisely in the hope of "scoring points" at their partners' expense and then dictating their terms from a position of strength. The two chief rivals scored appreciable successes. The Socialist Party secured the sharpest increase in votes since the war, increasing its electoral base by more than one-fourth. While losing 2 seats in the Senate, the Socialists gained 21 new seats in the Chamber of Deputies. The Christian Democratic Party, while failing to compensate for the slump of past years, also polled more votes. Its representation in the Senate (five new seats) and the Chamber of Deputies (nine additional seats) increased accordingly. The three former "junior" partners — the Republicans, Social Democrats, and Liberals — came off worse. Nevertheless, according to the almost unanimous predictions of the local press, the five-party colaition can still be revived.

Against this background an important result of the voting is the fact that a new color has emerged and at once stood out from Italy's multicolored political spectrum: the "Green" Party. Its chief slogan is environmental protection in the broadest meaning of this concept. Entering the struggle for seats in the country's legislative organ for the first time, the "Greens" managed to overtake many of its "veterans." They won 1 seat in the Senate and 13 in the Chamber of Deputies.

The majority of analysts here were immediately of the opinion that this debutant took votes away from the Italian Communist Party [PCI], which lost the biggest number of supporting voters in several decades and, as a result, lost 7 seats in the Senate and 21 in the Chamber of Deputies. It is believed here that young people accounted chiefly for the "outflow" of voters. All this is not being discussed widely in the party's ranks. As PCI Secretary General A. Natta pointed out, commenting on the election results, while the number of votes polled by the Communists fell, "movements and electoral lists which express protest and opposition are winning positions."

Still, they have not changed and probably could not have changed the distribution of political forces radically, although they have registered appreciable changes and trends taking place in the country. In such a situation the forming of a new government — in all likelihood from the old parties — will be preceded by very complex negotiations and stubborn political haggling. Even after the election the political equilibrium in Italy remains rather shaky.

CYPRIOT PARLIAMENTARIANS ARRIVE FOR VISIT, TALKS

LD151945 Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 15 TASS — A delegation from the group for USSR-Cyprus friendship at the House of Representatives (parliament) of the Republic of Cyprus led by House President Vassos Lyssarides arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR.

They were received at the Parliamentary Group of the USSR and its USSR-Cyprus Section. An exchange of opinions took place on USSR-Cyprus relations and some international issues.

Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the USSR and chairman of the parliamentary group of the USSR, pointed to the major significance of parliament-to-parliament contacts to further strengthening USSR-Cyprus relations.

He stressed the invariable nature of Soviet policy in the resolution of the Cyprus issue in the framework of the United Nations on the [words indistinct] its resolutions.

Vassos Lyssarides expressed profound gratitude to the USSR for its position on the Cyprus issue. Speaking on behalf of the parliament of Cyprus he voiced support for the latest Soviet peace initiatives.

The people of Cyprus, he said, were following closely positive changes in the Soviet Union, which were having an impact on the life of also other peoples in the world.

Taking part in the meeting were Soviet MP's Tatyana Bokareva, Sergey Burenkov and Viktor Pushkarev.

Mikhail E. Sierifis, ambassador of Cyprus to the USSR, also attended.

Demichev Meets Delegation

LD162046 Moscow TASS in English 1741 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 16 TASS — Petr Demichev, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, received in the Kremlin today a delegation of the Cyprus-USSR friendship group of the House of Representatives of Cyprus led by Vassos Lyssarides, president of the House. The delegation is [words indistinct] in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR.

Petr Demichev informed the Cyprus MPs of the guidelines for the social and economic development of the USSR and the foreign (?policy) strategy of the Soviet state.

The members of the delegation expressed support for the Soviet Union's large-scale initiatives aimed at building a nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world.

The Soviet (?side) reaffirmed the Soviet Union's consistent approach — an approach not given to time-serving considerations — to the attainment of a genuinely just, comprehensive and viable solution to the Cyprus problem on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions and with account of the interests of both communities of the island. The Soviet side stressed the importance of implementing the idea of calling a representative international conference on Cyprus in the United Nations framework.

Much attention was devoted to the efforts made by the Soviet Union and Cyrus to improve the situation in the Miditerranean. The MPs from Cyprus positively appraised the Soviet initiatives aimed at turning that region into a zone of peace, security, and cooperation.

The Soviet side expressed support for the proposal [word indistinct] forth by Vassos Lyssarides that a conference of MPs from the Mediterranean countries be called to make efforts to promote movement toward a nuclear weapon-free Mediterranean region without foreign forces and bases.

The sides took note of a substantial positive contribution made by the MPs of both countries to the effort to promote mutual understanding between people in the Soviet Union and Cyprus and expressed the determination to assist further development of traditional friendly relations between the USSR and Cyprus in a variety of fields.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH SWEDEN DISCUSSED

PM181501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jun 87 First Edition

[TASS report: "Cooperation Is Developing"]

[Text] The 15th session of the Soviet-Swedish Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation ended in Moscow on 12 June.

The current state of the trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation was examined. The desire of both sides to further develop this cooperation using new forms of business relations and deepening scientific and technical exchanges was confirmed.

Representatives of Swedish enterprises, companies, and banks, and members of the presidium of the Swedish committee for the promotion of trade with the USSR had come to Moscow in connection with the session. They visited a number of ministries, departments, and foreign trade associations which have the right, as from 1 January, to carry out foreign trade transactions.

In a conversation with a TASS correspondent, T. Peterson, head of the Swedish delegation and Swedish minister of industry, expressed satisfaction with the results of the session. He emphasized the traditional nature and good prospects of Swedish-Soviet cooperation. Our business contacts, the minister said, will be continued in sectors which play a leading role in both the Swedish and the Soviet economy. A very promising area of cooperation is the creation of joint industrial enterprises. However, before embarking on the establishment of Swedish-Soviet enterprises, many problems have to be carefully analyzed and solved. The main condition of the functioning of such enterprises is the condition of mutual advantage.

BRIEFS

NATURAL GAS EXPORTED — Ankara June 12 TASS — The export of Soviet natural gas to Turkey has been started. It is now supplied to the Hamitabat thermal power plant through a gas pipeline laid from the border of the USSR across the territories of Romania and Bulgaria. In the future, natural fuel supplied under the inter-governmental agreement will go to Istanbul and Ankara, Turkey's capital. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 12 Jun 87 LD]

NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO ACCEPTS LENIN PRIZE IN MOSCOW

LD162122 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] D'Escoto Brockman, a state figure from the Republic of Nicaragua, has been awarded the International Lenin Prize for Strengthening Peace Among Nations for his outstanding services in the struggle to preserve and strengthen peace. A festive meeting of representatives of the public, at which the diplomat and the winner's gold prize were handed to the Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs, took place in the Kremlin today.

D'Escoto is active in promoting a foreign policy course which corresponds to the interests of all progressive states, noted Academician Blokhin, chairman of the committee for International Lenin Prizes.

Soviet people are coming out resolutely in favor of the defense of the sovereign rights of the states of Latin America, against any kind of attempts to dictate others' conditions on them or to sow enmity and mistrust between them. This was noted by Chakovskiy, chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Latin American Peoples, and by Zaytsev, deputy director of the Latin America Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

D'Escoto expressed his gratitude for the award and noted that the International Lenin Prize is a recognition of the selfless struggle of the Nicaraguan people in defense of those principles, the respect for which is necessary so that peace between people will reign on earth. The heads of the diplomatic missions of a number of states accredited in the USSR were present at the meeting.

NICARAGUAN STATEMENT ON PLANE DOWNING CITED

LD170808 Moscow TASS in English 0716 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Managua June 17 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin:

The aircraft, which was downed by Nicaraguan air defences on June 16 after rocketing the positions of the Sandinista People's Army, belonged to counterrevolutionary bands maintained by the United States, the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry announced on Tuesday.

The aircraft intruded into the air space of the revolutionary republic from the territory of Honduras and attacked with missiles a detachment of the Sandinista People's Army in El Doradito, Nueva Segovia Department. Fighters of the Sandinista People's Army opened artillery fire and damaged the violator which landed in the Honduran settlement of El Tigre, 6 km from the border.

The statement by the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry says that three people on board the aircraft were seriously wounded and rushed to a Honduran hospital. The commander of the contras air force Juan Gomez was among those wounded.

SUPREME SOVIET DECREES AMNESTY MARKING GOSR

PM191303 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on Amnesty To Mark the 70th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution"]

[Text] To mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and being guided by the principles of socialist humanism, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

1. To release from punishment in the form of imprisonment, irrespective of the length of sentence, and also from punishments other than imprisonment the following categories of convicted persons:

a) those who took part in combat operations to defend the Soviet motherland;
b) those awarded USSR orders or medals;
c) women having underage children, and also pregnant women;
d) men over the age of 60 and women over 55;
e) Category I and Category II invalids.

2. To release from punishment women sentenced to imprisonment for terms of up to 5 years inclusive who have served at least one-third of their sentence, and also women sentenced to punishments other than imprisonment.

3. To release from punishment in the form of imprisonment minors who have served at least 1 year of their sentence and who have not previously served a sentence in a correctional labor institution.

4. To release from prison, on condition of compulsory employment, persons sentenced to prison terms of up to 3 years inclusive, excepting persons who fall under Articles 1 and 2 of this decree.

5. To release from serving additional punishment in the form of exile or banishment persons listed in Articles 1 and 2 of this decree.

6. To procedurally terminate all investigations and cases awaiting examination by the courts relating to crimes committed before the entry into force of the present decree by persons listed in Article 1 of the decree.

7. The following categories of convicted persons are not liable to conditional release on the basis of Article 4 of the decree:

a) those recognized under the established procedure as Category III invalids, and minors;
b) those who have committed crimes during compulsory military service and, similarly, those serving sentences in any type of colony or settlement;
c) foreign citizens and stateless persons.

8. Not to release from punishment persons listed in Articles 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the present decree who:

a) have been sentenced for particularly dangerous state crimes, and also for crimes covered by Articles 14, 14(1), 15, 16, 17, and 20; the first section of Article 22; Articles 23 and 24; and the second section of Article 25 of the USSR Law "On Criminal Liability for State Crimes"; and by Point b) of Article 2; Points b) and c) of Article 4; Article 6; Article 8; Points b) and c) of Article 10; Points a) and c) of Article

11; Point a) of Article 13; Point c) of Article 19; Point c) of Article 20; Point c) of Article 21; Point c) of Article 23; and Point b) of Article 24 of the USSR Law "On Criminal Liability for Military Crimes";
b) who are deemed to be particularly dangerous recidivists;
c) who have been sentenced for: premeditated murder (with the exception of murder committed in a state of violent mental disturbance or exceeding the bounds of justifiable defense); premeditated grievous bodily harm (with the exception of harm caused in a state of violent mental disturbance or exceeding the bounds of justifiable defense); and attempt on the life of a member of the militia or the volunteer people's militia; rape with aggravating circumstances; the embezzlement of state or public property on a particularly large scale; the theft of state or public property involving the breaking and entering of premises or other place of safekeeping; theft involving the breaking and entering of a person's home and aggravated theft; robbery with violence; the receipt of a bribe, the giving of a bribe, or mediation in bribery committed with aggravating circumstances, and also crimes covered by the second section of Article 209, Article 213(2), the second section of Article 216 and Articles 218(1), 224, 224(1), 224(2), and 226(1) of the RSFSR Criminal Code and the corresponding articles of the other union republics' criminal codes;
d) who have been sentenced to imprisonment more than twice for premeditated crimes and also those previously sentenced to imprisonment for crimes indicated in subsections "a" and "c" of this article of the decree;
e) who have been previously pardoned or amnestied and have again committed a premeditated crime;
f) who have not undergone a complete course of treatment for alcoholism, drug addiction, or venereal disease;
g) who have maliciously breached the rules during their sentence.

9) The remainder of the sentence for persons not eligible for release on the basis of this decree is to be reduced in the following manner:

a) those sentenced to corrective labor without imprisonment -- by one-half;
b) servicemen sentenced to serve in a disciplinary battalion -- by one-half;
c) those sentenced to serve in an educational labor center -- by one-half;
d) those in receipt of a suspended sentence on condition of compulsory employment and those conditionally released from places of imprisonment on condition of compulsory employment -- by one-half;
e) those convicted persons who are serving sentences in colonies and settlements for persons who have committed crimes of negligence -- by one-half;
f) those convicted persons who are serving a sentence in correctional labor institutions and have served at least one-third of their sentence are to be treated as follows:

those who have been sentenced to imprisonment no more than twice are to have their sentence halved;
those who have been sentenced to imprisonment more than twice are to have their sentence reduced by one-third.
There is no reduction in sentence under this article for malicious violaters of the rules or persons previously pardoned or amnestied who have again committed a premeditated crime.

10) The criminal record of persons released on the basis of Articles 1, 2, and 3 of this Decree is to be cleared.

11) This Decree enters into force from the day of its publication and is to be executed within 6 months.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
The Kremlin, Moscow, 18 June 1987

JURIST OUTLINES, EXPLAINS AMNESTY PROVISIONS

LD191618 Moscow TASS in English 1603 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 19 TASS — The amnesty announced by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet in connection with the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution is distinct from all the previous ones.

The practice of amnestying criminals exists in the USSR since 1917, from the first days of Soviet power, a TASS correspondent was told by Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Court of the USSR Yevgeniy Smolentsev. Amnesties are timed for remarkable dates in the life of the state. They mean an act of mercy, the implementation of the principles of socialist humanism.

In the past the amnesty presupposed only the release of a certain category of convicts from places of detention. This time it would also mean reducing the terms for those who will continue serving them. The terms of those who were tried not more than twice will be halved, the terms of those who were tried more than twice will be reduced by one third. Observance of the regime in correctional labour colonies is obligatory for convicts, and the terms for habitual offenders will not be reduced.

The decree has another specific feature. It envisages the dismissal of cases that are being investigated and those cases that have not yet been heard by the courts, Yevgeniy Smolentsev said. This applies to cases against those who took part in combat operations to defend the USSR, had state awards. [sentence as received] The cases against pregnant women or women with underage children will also be dismissed.

The deputy chairman of the Supreme Court of the USSR said that the amnesty does not apply to persons convicted for particularly dangerous crimes against the state, such as spying, contraband, treason, banditism. Masters of the ships "Admiral Nakhimov" and "Petr Vasev" belong in that category. Because of their negligence these vessels collided on the waterfront of the Black Sea port of Novorossiyisk in the summer of last year. Dozens of people were killed as a result.

Article 216 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation envisages punishment for those guilty of violating safety rules at enterprises where there is a danger of explosions. The amnesty does not apply also to those who are guilty of the accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON LOCAL SOVIET ELECTIONS

PM221602 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jun 87 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Soviets' Power Is the People's Power: The Broad Democratism of the Election Campaign"]

[Text] As always for celebrations, our cities and villages have decked themselves out. Today is election day. Workers and kolkhoz members are going to the polling stations, those who carried out the Great October Socialist Revolution and upheld its gains, and those who are today carrying out revolutionary transformations and augmenting the wealth of the Land of the Soviets. Young men and women are going,

people of all nations and ethnic groups. They are going to fulfill their lofty civic duty -- to vote for the candidate deputies to local organs of socialist people's power and people's judges for the rayon (city) people's courts.

"I will be voting with a special feeling, an elevated mood," N. Ivanov from Tyumen writes to the editorial office. "These elections are very different from past ones. We have had the opportunity to nominate really worthy people for the soviets, people who will be able to roll up their sleeves, as the saying goes, and get down to work. After all, it is no secret that deputies' seats have often been occupied by leaders of various administrations and directorates who regarded a mandate as a kind of appendage to their post. There have also been what you might call 'important personages.' They were only officially numbered as deputies, and sometimes did not even go to the sessions. On election day I will not only be voting for my own candidates for the rayon, city, and oblast soviets, I will not only be electing a people's judge, I will be voting for the restructuring and for the changes for the better that are taking place in our country."

"During nominations, in our oblast the voters discussed 18,788 candidacies and nominated as candidates 11,784 people," says N. Vislova, deputy chief of Ivanovo Oblispolkom organizational instructors' department. "The vast majority live in the territory of their electoral okrugs. This fact gives us grounds to say that they are people who the majority of voters know personally. We have also renounced overorganized meetings held according to the customary scenario. The meetings took place in a businesslike, unconstrained atmosphere. Thus of 8,709 candidate deputies to the rural soviets, 6,368 were discussed at rural assemblies, and 5,620 people were registered. Each candidate deputy put forward his platform. Many questions raised by the voters are already being resolved."

The unique nature of the present stage in our country's development gave a special color to today's elections. The socialist house is undergoing renovation, fresh air is being let in to all the stagnant corners; the old, dilapidated walls are being resolutely broken down, and a new house is being created, in which it is easy to breathe and live. The nucleus, the core of the restructuring and acceleration is the all-around development of socialist democracy, the masses' living creativity. This was manifested very vividly in the course of the election campaign.

The best representatives of the working class, kolkhoz peasantry, and intelligentsia have been nominated as candidate deputies. The meetings to nominate the candidate deputies and their meetings with the voters have revealed the most profound interest on the part of the working people in their state's affairs. There was frank discussion of all questions of concern to people. The affairs of the plant, kolkhoz, rayon, city, and oblast and of the country as a whole were discussed in detail. The voters unanimously approve the party's domestic and foreign policy.

This year for the first time, by way of an experiment, elections to certain local soviets are taking place on the basis of multiple seat electoral okrugs. As a rule the number of candidates in these okrugs is in excess of the number of seats. Today the voters will define their attitude toward each candidate. Those who collect fewest votes will form the reserve. They will receive a certificate accordingly and will be able to take part in the work of the soviet and its organs in a consultative capacity. There is plenty of work for everyone.

The democratic norms enshrined in existing legislation on elections are also being put into practice in the voting itself. Taking into account the working people's proposals, on this occasion at the polling stations the booths for secret voting are placed in such a way that nobody can walk past and everyone must necessarily use them. Great significance is attached to the efficient work of the electoral commissions and the establishment of a businesslike, calm atmosphere at the polling stations.

The Soviet person is his country's master, the creator of its might and wealth. "All power in the USSR belongs to the people," the USSR Constitution says. It is exercised through the soviets of people's deputies, which form the political foundation of the land of Great October. Pursuing a line of further improving socialist democracy and society's whole political system, the party is tirelessly concerned to enhance the role and prestige and improve the activity of the soviets -- that mighty weapon of socialist building. It is concerned to involve ever broader masses in committed, active participation in the management of production, the state, and society.

Our prime concern -- for today and for tomorrow --is to move ahead, literally to fight for the restructuring. The most fundamental thing is conscientious work by everyone. Good things do not come of their own accord, they do not fall from the skies. They are earned by everyone's labor. We will take a marked step forward if we can impose order in everything, take care to strengthen discipline and organization and improve the quality of goods and services, and save raw materials and work time. There must be a resolute war on laxity and thriftlessness, bureaucracy and formalism. The implementation of the social program requires great efforts and energy.

The local soviets are really on the front line. They are closer than anyone else to the labor collectives, the broadest masses, the creators of the restructuring. In the soviets all the threads of state policy come together and people's interests and needs collect together. Every day they express in practice the will of working people and translate into the language of practice the decisions taken by the party.

The election campaign has become, in practice, a searching review of the local soviets' activity. Progress in fulfilling the party's resolutions on improving the work of the organs of people's power and law and order has been analyzed in detail. In summing up the campaign, it is important to interpret experience comprehensively, assess the mistakes that have been made, and rectify errors and shortcomings without procrastination. The soviets are a form of power open to everyone, doing everything in full view of the masses. The expansion of openness is of inestimable significance for the development of democracy.

One effective channel of communications between the soviets and the working people is the voters' instructions. Many thousands of these have been put forward during the candidates' meetings with voters. Many questions have been resolved on the spot. Others require time and considerable resources. But in any event the voters should know that their words are not left hanging in the air. For the soviet workers, it is a vital rule to inform people about the fulfillment of instructions.

In carrying out their civic duty Soviet people are aware of their great socioeconomic, political, and personal rights, granted to them by Great October whose 70th anniversary we are preparing to mark. By freely expressing our will and electing deputies to the soviets, we are voting for the further flourishing of the socialist fatherland.

Everyone to the elections!

MIRONENKO INTERVIEWED ON KOMSOMOL PROBLEMS

DW160701 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 15 Jun 87 pp 138-146

[Interview with Komsomol First Secretary Viktor Mironenko by DER SPIEGEL correspondent Joerg R. Mettke in Moscow; no date given]

[Text] Mettke: Viktor Ivanovich, you are dissatisfied with conditions in your youth association. What is wrong in Lenin's Komsomol?

Mironenko: The Komsomol has strong and weak sides. It is a unique association with roughly 500,000 basic organizations and almost as many members between 14 and 28 years as the Federal Republic has adult citizens. With our budget of many millions of rubles we can get many things going economically and socially. We have our own cultural and tourist centers. That is good. On the other hand, we suffer from typical growth problems. In the late forties there were 10 million Komsomol members; in the early sixties, 20 million; and today, more than 40 million.

Mettke: Quantity not quality?

Mironenko: Yes, in a certain way one may say so.

Mettke: What undesirable developments do you particularly dislike?

Mironenko: To begin with, the undeniable fact that the association has been withdrawing from real life and from young people's problems and interests. Then, there is the bureaucratization of the apparatus, the formalism in work. Here in the center, repeatedly new forms were conceived which were to be implemented by the basic organizations. We are convinced there is no panacea for all the problems. There are general, common goals, but the paths leading there are as manifold as is young people's life.

Mettke: If growth problems in general are to be made responsible for the difficulties, does that mean no one has failed, no one has made mistakes?

Mironenko: No, it does not mean that. It goes without saying there are persons responsible for the fact that the proper conclusions were not drawn earlier. However, for us, individuals are not that important. They come and go, in particular in a youth organization, where the fluctuation is rather great. For us, it is more important to find the reasons for the mistakes.

Mettke: The Komsomol's political and organizational example is the party. It guides the Komsomol. Where are the party's faults?

Mironenko: I think that after Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's speech at our congress, I no longer need to speak about the party's mistakes in that field. He expressed himself very precisely and openly about it...

Mettke: ... and encouraged the young cadre reserve of the party not to believe everything that comes from the top.

Mironenko: Yes, and at the end of his speech he formulated nothing less than a new youth policy of the party. The organizational independence of the youth association has always been recognized. That is laid down in all-important party documents since its foundation. However, in practical work, that has not always been observed. Only in the past 2 years have we had the opportunity to discuss all problems really sincerely and in complete openness, including the problem of guidance by the party.

Mettke: Now everything is getting better?

Mironenko: Well, you see, the formulation of your question reveals a somewhat prejudiced idea of our organization. Very often people think our association is a tool of the party to enforce a certain policy on young people.

Mettke: It is not?

Mironenko: No, absolutely not. Anyway, it is our goal that young people become Komsomol members because they like the party's policy.

Mettke: But obviously many of them disliked many things. When and how did you first notice that things cannot go on like that?

Mironenko: In the very first days of my work for the association, that is, in 1973. In 14 years I have been confronted time and again with all the problems which had accumulated in the Komsomol.

Mettke: More specifically, please. What did you consider intolerable?

Mironenko: I disliked in particular that increasingly less importance was attached to the independence and self-initiative of the basic organizations, that the top tried to regularize every single aspect in the life of those basic groups. Often I disliked the kind of relationship between Komsomol functionaries and young people.

Mettke: How did they treat the young people?

Mironenko: Sometimes the functionary played the big boss, broke away from the basis, and was no longer a real leader, but a young bureaucrat.

Mettke: Then you can understand young people who consider their federation a boring association of bureaucrats and therefore turn their backs on it?

Mironenko: Certainly, I can understand them. Prior to the congress we had the opportunity to convince ourselves during many discussions that a part of young people really does not accept such boring "functionaries," that they are not content with the forms and methods of Komsomol work. But let me expressly emphasize that we consider that something positive, because if somebody criticizes his organization he wants it to change. Otherwise it would be easier for him to vote with his feet -- simply stay away. Several certainly do that, too.

Mettke: How do you intend to win them back?

Mironenko: First, there are not too many, hardly more than 2 to 4 percent of the whole membership. Second, there are very different reasons why a young person loses his ties to the Komsomol. Third, how can we get them back? Only by making life in the association more interesting so that young people feel better inside than outside it.

Mettke: The 2-volume Komsomol history published 9 years ago draws the picture of an intact, faultless organization. Is that euphemistic?

Mironenko: Your question addresses an important point. Serious mistakes have been made in the education of youth. We were trying to keep them away from all that might have been harmful and to create an artificial space where they were to grow up protected. In reality, we kept them away from life itself. In that respect we have considerably revised our position. We will never again isolate young people. On the contrary, we want to have them take part in life, including in the ideological conflict. Soviet youth is well enough prepared for dealing with all sorts of problems, difficulties, and contradictions, and forming their own judgment.

Mettke: Had you gotten used to describing the history of the Komsomol as an uninterrupted chain of victories and successes?

Mironenko: There certainly were successes. However, there also were a lot of mistakes. Our youth should know how it really was. That not only holds true for the history of the Komsomol but also for that of the country. Concealing negative points and using euphemisms are now out of the question. The next Komsomol history will certainly have a few more pages.

Mettke: Will it also disclose the truth about the fate of those first secretaries of the Komsomol Central Committee who did not survive 1939 because they were executed on Stalin's orders?

Mironenko: We do not have to wait for the future. Our daily, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, with a circulation of 17 million, recently printed reminiscences of Petr Smorodin (first secretary 1921-1924). The periodical YUNOST (YOUTH) published reminiscences of Aleksandr Kosarev (general secretary 1929-1938). We are not taking it upon ourselves to rewrite history or pass judgment on it. But youth must learn the whole truth. Now at last we have a sociopolitical situation in which we can implement that.

Mettke: The Komsomol leadership issued honorary membership book number one twice — one to Lenin, and in the seventies the second one to Brezhnev. Where do you see Brezhnev's special merits for youth?

Mironenko: Well, that was a symbolic gesture by which we expressed our respect for the party. Brezhnev was general secretary.

Mettke: Then it will soon be necessary to produce another document with the symbolic number.

Mironenko: No, there are no such plans for the moment, and Mikhail Sergeyevich would not like it. But we are an independent organization and decide that on our own.

Mettke: The Komsomol sees itself as a mass organization. You become a member almost automatically when you are 14, because your parents also were members, because everybody is a member, and because it would not be good for your career if you stayed outside. Do you not think that is the wrong way?

Mironenko: The way you are describing it is wrong. Please do not forget that only two-thirds of Soviet youth are organized in the Komsomol. If somebody really were to try to capitalize personally on his membership we would struggle most energetically against such an attempt. There are no disadvantages whatever for young citizens who for whatever reason do not want to become a Komsomol member.

Mettke: If there were, would you work to eliminate them if you heard about them?

Mironenko: Immediately and absolutely.

Mettke: In how many enterprises and institutions is the Komsomol group considered the director's extended arm? As long as it sees to better plan fulfillment, it is welcome, but woe to it if it were to make waves and fight for youth interests aggressively!

Mironenko: What should happen, do you think? You see, the interests of a youth working in an enterprise and those of the director are largely identical, especially now that we have started introducing economic accounting...

Mettke: ...and an enterprise first has to earn what it wants to spend on investments and salaries.

Mironenko: Exactly. The better an enterprise works, the better the quality of its products, the better off the worker is. That is in the general interest -- both of the director and of the young workers. So we welcome Komsomol groups helping factory management solve economic tasks. However, if a director is trying to solve his economic problems at young people's cost or even to their damage, or if he violates the law, the Komsomol organization has to fight that resolutely, and it will be right.

Mettke: Recently you criticized a widespread "consumer mentality regarding youthful enthusiasm," meaning the way young people's readiness to make sacrifices has become a fixed quantity of the plan. Does that not also hold true for Afghanistan where more than 100,000 young Red Army members have to wage a war that is not their cause?

Mironenko: Those two problems are on entirely different levels. What did I mean by my criticism? When young people voluntarily go to distant areas of our country to develop the economy there under difficult conditions, formerly in many cases only the economic aspect was taken into account, whereas social problems were forgotten. We are opposed to that. You should not deal with young people like that when you are trying to solve economic problems. As for Afghanistan, you know our position. Our soldiers are there at the legitimate Afghan Government's request. They are helping the progressive forces preserve their independence.

Mettke: Your government has been saying that for 8 years now.

Mironenko: On the other hand, war is war. There is nothing good about war. It would certainly be better for our boys to be at home. The earlier they come home, the better. But as you know, that does not depend on us alone.

Mettke: Are many young people not just fed up with constantly hearing political sermons by all those self-appointed fathers and being referred to an allegedly golden future? After all, they only live once, and they live now.

Mironenko: What sermons are you talking about? Where do you hear them today?

Mettke: Please tell us in what way the program and practice of perestroyka differ from the former sermons and promises.

Mironenko: In almost every way. The most important thing is that the meaning of our perestroyka is that everybody can demonstrate his energy and his capabilities and can realize himself. The moral and material recognition of a given activity is based solely on the quality of the job done. We have put an end to the former administration of work. We are now introducing economically oriented management methods. All those economic and social tasks that are part of perestroyka are not wishful dreams, but a realistic and thoroughly considered economic program.

Mettke: According to an opinion poll, only 8 percent of your members are totally satisfied with the speed of perestroyka within the Komsomol. Is that not a devastating judgment?.

Mironenko: The figure comes from a sociological poll on the question: "Are you satisfied with perestroyka within the Komsomol?" The point was not overall perestroyka in the whole of the country, but our small perestroyka within our organization.

Mettke: We have understood that correctly.

Mironenko: That is why in this case we cannot speak about a devastating assessment. We like that figure, because if 90 percent are dissatisfied with the speed of the changes within the Komsomol, we rely on those very 90 percent. That is not sophistry. By our most recently resolutions we want to eliminate what in the past hindered the young people's personal initiative.

Mettke: What exactly are you planning to do?

Mironenko: We rely on two remedies against bureaucracy. First, in the future the Komsomol center merely will have to create the juridical, financial, and organizational preconditions allowing young people in the grass roots organizations to shape their own lives. Second, the grass roots groups will get back all those rights that were taken away from them without justification and delegated to headquarters — the right of Komsomol membership, the right to exclude a member, the right to choose the forms and methods of work on one's own, and the right to dispose of one's own funds.

Mettke: Let us talk about overall perestroyka. How do you people react to Mikhail Gorbachev and his revolution from above? What are they expecting personally?

Mironenko: On the whole, they react positively. So far I have not met any youths who would have disputed the necessity of perestroyka. What they are expecting for themselves is obvious. Everybody would like to have an opportunity for self-realization. When working conditions improve decisively, democratizaton makes progress. The directors and enterprises are elected, glasnost prevails everywhere, and you can talk about everything freely, young people are happy. That is quite natural, is it not?

Mettke: But Gorbachev's policy of social renewal does not only have friends. Where do you see resistance and opposition? Where are the dangers to perestroyka?

Mironenko: That is an interesting question, which Gorbachev has already partly answered himself saying that we are all the children of our time. Our own habits are possibly the worst enemy of perestroyka. Lenin said the habits of millions are a terrible force. The frontline runs across everybody. But quite surely there are also people who do not like to make money by honest work. Our motto now is: What you give to society, that is how much it will return to you. Possibly not everybody likes that.

Mettke: You have advocated far-reaching democratization of the forms of election and management in the Komsomol. How many elections with several candidates and secret ballot have been held?

Mironenko: We have not counted them. But I know of dozens of cases where elections were held and three or four candidates presenting their own programs. By the way, our statute does not limit the number of candidates. When a Komsomol group has 150 members, each one could run in elections.

Mettke: But the possibility of a secret ballot is new.

Mironenko: It is new. Not everybody has agreed. They argued, why should there be secret elections now, of all times, now that there is total openness and everybody is supposed to say what they think without fear of disadvantage or defamation? But we have taken into account that such cases did exist -- no doubt about that -- cases where the elected director later settled accounts with those who had expressed opposition to him. Therefore, both open and secret ballots are possible. That is possible at all levels up to the central committee.

Mettke: Could you imagine you and the CPSU general secretary some day being elected by secret ballot by your respective central committees?

Mironenko: I will not and cannot speak for the party general secretary. As for the Komsomol, we have already taken the first step in that direction. For example, at our first central committee plenum after the Komsomol congress in which I was elected, the question was asked: How should we vote — by secret or open ballot? Everybody wanted open ballot. Then candidates were named. My name was mentioned. There were no other candidates. Honestly, I would have preferred a secret ballot with several candidates. That is more interesting.

Mettke: ...but it also entails the risk of being thrown out of office.

Mironenko: Of course. So what? When I was elected there were 54 no-votes of almost 5,000 delegates. Next time there might be 3,000 no-votes. If that happens I would go back to my college and to my former job, which I like very much, and I would teach history again. I would not be disappointed.

Mettke: Much of what seems today to be accepted as an element of Soviet youth culture not very long ago was denounced as a destructive Western influence -- rock music, jazz, or punks, to mention but a few. What is responsible for that change of heart?

Mironenko: It is not a change of heart. Something else has happened. In the past we did not try hard to understand the new phenomena in young people's lives. What seemed to be strange and incomprehensible was often quickly condemned. Today we approach things differently. Let us take rock music. It is a broad and very colorful spectrum of many different directions. We are trying to get to know it, but not for the purpose of telling young people what kind of music they are allowed to listen to.

Mettke: Is it not true that the Komsomol has the final word about the kind of music permitted in youth discotheques?

Mironenko: No, we cannot determine that. Youngsters decide what kind of music is played at discotheques.

Mettke: Without restriction?

Mironenko: There is no exception, any kind of music. However, we believe there is music and, well, non-music.

Mettke: But what you regard as non-music may be absolutely preferred by others.

Mironenko: Well then, that is their personal business. The youngsters' enthusiasm for various fashions and musical genres -- no matter whether we like it or not -- is a reality that we have to take seriously. I do not think, for instance, that every SPIEGEL reader likes rock music. We will not do something foolish like banning certain kinds of music. However, we want to contribute to educating taste.

Mettke: Recently, loose groups have formed, even in the Soviet Union. For example, followers of heavy metal music, long-haired hippies, or the so-called "lyuberi." On the other side -- short-haired, body-building supporters who love to combat everything un-Russian with their fists. Is that competition for the Komsomol, or do you view such trends with concern?

Mironenko: You know, sometimes it is really hard for me to understand where the West gets its exaggerated interests, particularly in those phenomena in the Soviet Union. For example, in your STERN magazine No 13 I read an article about Soviet youth exalting some heavy metal supporters at Red Square, some unappreciated genuises, and so on. Honestly, I would have loved to call the correspondent and ask him where he found those "typical" representatives of Soviet youth. I have been in Moscow for almost 1 year now and have never seen such things. Why such great attention to such extremes?

Mettke: New and different things are always of particular interest. That is what your press has just been learning, too.

Mironenko: Maybe that is so. Talking about those groups you mentioned, one cannot say that the number of followers of each group is increasing. For example, the heavy metal group forms a rather stable group of 15 to 17 year olds, according to our sociological investigations. The hippie adherents are gradually dying out. Those who love body-building and heavy athletics...

Mettke: We mean those violent groups from Moscow's suburb Lyubertsiy.

Mironenko: Those so-called "lyuberi" are very normal young people. We have been there, talked with them, and watched them train during their leisure time. There may be one or two hooligans among them, but let me ask you where there are no rowdies? One must have a very strong and colorful sense of fantasy to inflate that into an organized movement that, as you formulated it, fights everything un-Russian with its fists.

Mettke: But it is probably no figment of our imagination that young people in the Soviet Union still have to wait for apartments of their own for 10 years and more -- even if they have been married long. What hopes can you give to you Komsomol members for changes in the foreseeable future?

Mironenko: The housing problem is probably what concerns our youth most. Yet we are building more housing per capita than most other countries. At the end of World War II, apartments in the USSR's European part were virtually wiped out. Besides, the people's wishes how they would like to live are changing. In Moscow 20 years ago, somebody with a room without a common apartment was quite happy man who did not want more.

Mettke: Do you think the desires of your fellow citizens who want to live better, more comfortably than at that time are unjustified and excessive?

Mironenko: Not at all. Changing requirements in life are completely justified. There is no other way at all: One must build more apartments. At the last CPSU congress the goal was set to supply each family either with an apartment of its own or with a house of its own by the year 2000. I believe we will make it. During this 5 year plan, from 1986 to 1990, so many apartments are under construction that, for example, each inhabitant of the FRG would have 10 square meters. For our population, four times greater, the share is, unfortunately, lower.

Mettke: Where on the waiting list are youth?

Mironenko: We have just found a promising method to help youngsters get apartments of their own more quickly. We call it youth apartment complexes. Unfortunately our building sector frequently has a shortage of personnel. The enterprise has money, there is building material, and construction could begin, but there is no personnel. Now enterprises are offering the opportunity to young people take a break from their regular jobs, learn the basics of a building profession, and be able to build the required apartments within a collective.

Mettke: Apartments for themselves?

Mironenko: Yes, they own apartments. Many. Not just a building, but a whole complex. That often results in an astonishing social phenomenon, as is shown by statistics. The birthrate in such complexes is 12 times higher than the national average. There are one-tenth as many divorces. Talks between neighbors take place six times more often than elsewhere, although I do not know how they arrived at that. With that method we will create apartments worth R2 billion for 150,000 young families within 5 years. But a final and perfect solution of the housing issues is probably impossible. They say there is no greater thing than our opportunities — except for our needs.

Mettke: Is that also true for other needs — the need for vodka? The Komsomol unconditionally supports General Secretary Gorbachev's anti-alcohol campaign. How great is the number of youngsters exposed to alcohol? What help does your organization render?

Mironenko: I do not know the definite figures. But let me mention some other data: Vodka sales have decreased by half within 2 years — in 1984 it was 8.4 liters of hard liquor, and in 1986 just 4.4 liters. Compared to that, here are some other figures: France-13.3 liters, FRG-12.2 liters. All figures are according to a Swiss institute. All the same, it remains a difficult problem for us for economic and psychological reasons. It involves traditions and habits. It was a brave decision to combat it and we will wage that struggle until the end, despite all resistance.

Mettke: Has reduced alcohol consumption had any positive effects?

Mironenko: The number of workers absent from work diminished by one-third during those 2 years. There were 20 percent fewer traffic accidents and a crime rate that went down by 5 percent. For the first time in 10 years the average life expectancy is on the increase. We are using all our Komsomol media for broad anti-alcohol propaganda. We are offering alternatives for a healthier life in our sports centers. The moment we see a young man wrecking himself systematically with heavy drinking we certainly have ways of helping.

Mettke: Soviet scientists have recently found that there are 56,000 drug-addicts between Brest and Vladivostok, while there are another 123,000 who have tried drugs at least once. Most of them are youngsters. What do you think are the societal reasons for that increasing drug addiction danger, which can now also be found in socialism.

Mironenko: The figures are correct. The reasons are manifold. Mistakes in education, socially weak families, or bad examples. I do not want to argue in the old traditional way that all that came to us from the West, like all bad things did. But it cannot be denied that a certain fashion of using drugs has spread to our country from countries where they are much more common.

Mettke: Thus fewer home-grown reasons?

Mironenko: They also exist. For example, in the southern parts of the USSR, poppy and hemp are grown. They even grow wild. Steps? First, private poppy growing will be banned, while limiting what is necessary for medicine to a minimum. Second, two new hemp types have been developed that no longer contain intoxicating substances. Most important, however, is the improvement in legal remedies. Drug dealers will be punished more severely in the future, while those addicted to drugs will finally be treated as sick people. They can expect medical aid in the future, no longer punishment. Nevertheless it remains a very serious problem.

Mettke: ...that the USSR wants to solve by means of greater international efforts and cooperation now.

Mironenko: That is what we are doing, because one country alone cannot cope with it. By the way, that is also a consequence of perestroyka and glasnost. Some 3 or 4 years ago our country tried to pretend that the problem did not exist in our country at all. Now we are dealing with it with open eyes. I frankly admit to you that sometimes I have not recognized my own country over the last 2 years.

Mettke: Even though such great changes are taking place, as you say, it remains a fact that young people not only like to travel in their own country, but they really love to go abroad — alone with a best friend or girlfriend. When will Soviet youngsters be able to explore Paris, London, or Hamburg on their own during their holidays?

Mironenko: We have the traditional group trip. By means of our youth travel agency "Sputnik," Soviet youngsters have of course been to London, Paris, Washington, or Hamburg.

Mettke: But "Sputnik" in fact covers a mere 10 percent of the real demand.

Mironenko: Yes, unfortunately. Possibilities are very limited, mainly for financial reasons. There is a youth exchange among socialist countries free of foreign currency exchange, the so-called Zakopane model. When handling travels to Western countries, however, we have to have commercial contracts. Every service is to be paid in foreign currencies, which is rather expensive. Just think of how expensive a ticket for a plane or a hotel room is.

Mettke: In our country a youngster also cannot pay that. In most cases he is just not willing to travel in such a way. For that reason in the summertime hundreds of thousands with little money go hitch-hiking to our West European neighbors across open borders.

Mironenko: I think the time will come when all of us will hitch-hike through Europe. What we are doing in our country is aimed in that direction. Reducing distrust and lack of insight, and talking with each other -- just the way we have just talked with each other.

Mettke: Viktor Ivanovich, thanks for the talk.

SUPREME SOVIET APPOINTS STATE CHIEF ARBITER

LD231055 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 23 TASS -- The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the USSR has appointed Nikolay Malshakov the chief state arbiter of the USSR.

He was born in 1924 and began working in 1942. He fought on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War (1941-45) from the same year.

Having graduated from a juridical institute after the war, he worked in the procuracy service. From 1961 he served in party and local government posts. Between 1968 and 1972 he held a position of responsibility on the CPSU Central Committee's staff.

From 1972 he was the first deputy chairman and from 1984 the chairman of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation.

PRAVDA ON RESTRUCTURING IN FOREIGN ECONOMIC TIES

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[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences V. Shastitko under the rubric "Questions of Theory": "State Monopoly on Foreign Economic Activity"]

[Text] The processes of improving the economic mechanism in our country also embrace the sphere of foreign economic ties. The plan principle is being strengthened and the rights and responsibilities of sector ministries, associations, and enterprises are being extended. The basic economic component is to become the direct subject of international economic relations, operating on the principles of full economic accountability.

Associations, enterprises, and scientific organizations are engaging in active work with foreign partners. Talks are being held on creating joint enterprises on a shared ownership basis with socialist and capitalist country firms.

PRAVDA receives numerous letters asking about these processes. Readers are particularly interested in whether enterprises' independence in foreign ties does not tend to undermine the state monopoly on foreign economic activity. Is it not losing control of this very important sphere of economic management? Is it not a departure from the principles of foreign trade monopoly, which V.I. Lenin defended.

Answering these questions means interpreting the economic nature of the socialist state's monopoly on foreign economic activity in contemporary conditions from theoretical positions, and examing the dialectic of its social thrust at various stages of communist [as published] building and the development of its functions and forms depending on the nature of the USSR's participation in the international division of labor.

I.

The economic nature of the state monopoly on foreign economic activity is determined by the nature of socialism's production relations. The state is the chief subject and organizer of the planned running of a socialist society's economic life. Through the monopoly mechanism foreign economic activity is included in the planned national economy. From the viewpoint of organizational relations, the state monopoly features as an integral system of organization and management of all types and forms of foreign economic ties, which economic organizations carry out on the state's instructions. The monopoly protects the interests of the whole people, counters parochialism and departmentalism, and serves as a tool in economic contacts with the peoples of other countries. This is its essence. The specific forms of its manifestation are historically determined and depend on society's tasks at various stages.

The state monopoly on foreign economic activity emerged as a foreign trade monopoly soon after the October Revolution. In April 1918 V.I. Lenin signed the Soviet of People's Commissars decree "On the Nationalization of Foreign Trade," which stated that all foreign trade was to be nationalized. Trade deals for the purchase and sale of all kinds of products with foreign states and individual trade enterprises abroad were to be effected in the name of the Russian Republic by organs specially authorized to do so. Outside these organs, all trade deals with foreign countries for import or export were prohibited.

Centralization helped to concentrate in the hands of the proletarian state the then extremely meager export funds and to make the best possible use of export income for the most essential imports.

With the introduction of the New Economic Policy [NEP] proposals emerged to extend the "freedom of trade" to foreign economic ties and to permit the NEP-men to export and import any goods freely. The authors of these proposals believed that this would speed up the growth of foreign trade turnover and would help develop the economy. V.I. Lenin was categorically against it. His main argument was that the decentralization of foreign trade would give the income from it into the hands of the NEP-man and the kulak. Another important argument was that the monopoly was designed to protect the Soviet republic against "economic terrorism" by the capitalist powers and to prevent foreign capital from uniting with internal private operators to stifle the Soviet republic in their economic clutches.

During the industrialization period the role of foreign trade as a source of substance for the accumulations funds increased. Some 80-85 percent of investments in the active part of fixed capital were import-based. The tasks being tackled by foreign trade prompted the further centralization of its management.

Whereas in the first years of Soviet power the People's Trade and Industry Commissariat, which exercised the foreign trade monopoly, issued licenses for foreign trade operations to enterprises, trusts, and other economic organizations, in the thirties the right to foreign economic activity passed exclusively to specialized foreign trade organizations directly subordinate to the newly created People's Commissariat of Foreign Trade. The protective function of the foreign trade monopoly came to dominate.

This form of monopoly -- though it limited the possibilities for the country's participation in the international division of labor, while assisting the organization of economic management as a whole -- was an organic part of its overall structure. It confirmed its viability during the Great Patriotic War and in the early postwar years, when the maximum concentration of all resources for the front and then the postwar reconstruction was required.

II.

From the mid-fifties onward new opportunities appeared to expand our country's participation in the international division of labor. Foreign trade turnover increased. Its structure became more complex, but the main export items were still energy sources, timber, and raw mineral resources, while machinery, equpment, and other finished products played a subordinate role. In other words, foreign trade developed in the main extensively.

In its acceleration strategy, the 27th CPSU Congress assigned a substantial place to foreign economic ties. Increasing importance is being allotted to forms of cooperation with foreign partners such as production sharing, scientific and technical exchanges, joint production activities, and so forth.

The role of the foreign economic ties monopoly is also changing. The function of using the advantage of the international division of labor to improve social production efficiency, accelerate scientific and technical progress, and increase the people's prosperity is being brought to the forefront.

The tasks of improving the structure of foreign economic ties -- primarily expanding machinery and equipment exports and developing production sharing and other intensive forms of cooperation -- have made it necessary to involve in foreign economic activity the immediate producers of exports and consumers of imports. While preserving its role as the main subject of international economic relations, the state has invested sector management organs, associations, and enterprises with foreign economic functions.

In relations with socialist community countries the monopoly is designed to assist the realization of the policy of all-round rapprochement and cooperation. The commonality of socioeconomic aims and the similar types of production relations and basic principles of management constitute the objective base of integration. The CEMA member countries' economic policy is agreed and the coordination of their national economic plans is carried out using monopoly mechanisms.

In relations with developing states the foreign economic ties monopoly is the main tool of economic policy, aimed at assisting those countries to the utmost in establishing their economies, ensuring their economic independence, and including them in the international division of labor on the basis of equal rights and equivalence.

In relations with the developed capitalist countries the foreign economic ties monopoly is designed to ensure cooperation based on the principles of mutual advantage and equal rights and to protect the interests of the state and of the organizations taking part in cooperation with firms against any discriminatory policy.

III.

The state monopoly on foreign economic activity is exercised primarily via the planning system. The foreign currency plan is drawn up both at national economy level and at ministry and enterprise level. The most important elements of the new system of managing foreign economic ties are the organic combination of planning and full financial autonomy and the economic contract relations between enterprises and foreign economic organizations.

This mechanism lays down new preconditions for the implementation of the principle of centralism in managing this sphere of the economy. Its effectiveness depends on ensuring that the economic levers used to "pressure" associations and enterprises to strive for the necessary results are equal to these tasks.

The main parameters for economically accountable regulation of foreign economic ties are prices of exports and imports, foreign currency rates and coefficients, customs tariffs, allocations and taxes, and rates of interest on credit, that is, the whole set of value instruments which help to shape associations' and enterprises' interest in developing such ties. During the restructuring of foreign economic activity, price formation, customs tariffs, and so forth are to be improved.

The establishment of a new system of management of foreign economic ties is, in my opinion, complicated by the fact that reform in this sphere is somewhat outstripping the restructuring of the management of the national economy as a whole. Associations and enterprises which have gained independence in foreign economic activity in some cases still have no independence within the country. The law on enterprises, it is to be supposed, will resolve this contradiction.

The sector management organs -- primarily the machine-building ministries which are invested with rights to foreign economic activity -- are creating corresponding organizations to export and import products according to the sector's specialization. They are beginning to serve not only the enterprises of their "own" ministry, but all consumers or producers of similar products. As we can see, the role and responsibility of the sector ministries in the foreign economic sphere are increasing.

They also to a large extent determine import policy for goods on their product lists. Their foreign trade organizations are obliged to provide for the import of goods for all consumers on the basis of economic contracts.

This system of organizing foreign economic ties brings foreign trade closer to production and enhances the effectiveness of interaction with it.

But, on the other hand, there is a danger of a departmental approach and the priority resolution of the export and import problems of their "own" enterprises. The "monopoly" of the Ministry of Foreign Trade could give way -- if appropriate measures are not taken -- to a "monopoly" of many ministries which have gained the right to foreign economic activity.

All this is evidence of the need to boost the role of state control over all participants in foreign economic activity and over their observance above all of statewide interests. This is the function of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. They must elaborate the methods of the largely new work and restructure themselves organizationally.

But it is obviously not enough to limit action to administrative control. As practice shows, control "from above" is much more effective if it is backed up "from below." Foreign economic ties were for a long time not only beyond criticism, but even shrouded in mystery.

Democratic control and openness are the effective means of overcoming departmental "monopolies." Consistent economic accountability is of key significance in implementing a national economic approach.

The customs organs' tasks are changing substantially. In addition to its former functions, the customs tariff is designed to be an active tool of the state's economic policy and an integral part of the economically accountable regulation of foreign economic ties.

Restructuring the management of foreign economic ties is not a once-only legal act, but a process during which there will be several refinements and amendments. But the purport and main content of the new mechanism remain unaltered -- to develop the initiative of enterprises while preserving the state's monopoly in foreign economic activity, in order to make fuller use of the reserves of the international division of labor in the interests of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development.

CSA REPORTS POOR REPAIR OF FARM MACHINERY

LD190947 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] How is the preparation of harvesting equipment going in the country as a whole? Central Statistical Administration data shows that about 125,000 combine harvesters, over 140,000 windrowers and 40,000 grain cleaners are not yet ready for work. Judging from these figures, one can surmise that not everyone has learned from the experience of past years when much machinery lay idle because of the slow work of the repair services. Many farms in the Ukraine have not benefited from the lesson. There, the level of readiness of harvesting equipment today is even 2 percent lower than the figure for the USSR as a whole and is only 83 percent. Harvesting equipment is being repaired even more slowly in Kostroma, Ryazan, Kursk, Kurgan, Perm, Chita, and Amur oblasts.

All of this indicates that many rayons and oblasts have approached the organization of the repair of equipment and tractors with a low degree of responsibility. Superficial resounding words about restructuring the repair sector and improving the engineering services and introducing new forms of labor in the workshops have turned out to be far from what has been done in practice.

GAVRICHKIN REVIEWS COURSE OF HARVEST PREPARATIONS

PM191542 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 1

[V. Gavrichkin "Agricultural Review": "How Are We Greeting the Harvest?"]

[Text] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by 15 June the first cut of grasses had been gathered in from 9.7 million hectares. Some 4.2 million tonnes of hay, 8.6 million tonnes of haylage, and 491,000 tonnes of grass meal had been procured.

Whereas only recently we all went along with the saying that only the spring day feeds the year, now it is only right to say the same about any day throughout the duration of agricultural operations — from the sowing to the harvesting. Take today, for instance. Feed procurement is under way nearly everywhere. Just try delaying harvesting the grasses — you will lose the crop and the yield. That happened on many farms in Turkmenistan's Mary Oblast: It is time to start on the second cut, but they have only just finished the first, obtaining an average of only 17-20 quintals of hay per hectare.

Or another example. This is the busiest time for tending the sowings, yet in a whole series of regions of Siberia and North Kazakhstan, on the grain crops cultivated by intensive techniques, the farmers are omitting important techniques, as they did a year ago, and are not in control of the plant health situation in the fields. How much are they losing as a result?

It is a pity to fail to obtain from the fields and meadows as much as could have been obtained. It is even worse to lose part of the crop that has been nurtured. In order not to lose anything, literally everything — machinery and transport, storehouses, processing enterprises, trade — everything must be prepared to greet the harvest.

How well are we prepared to greet this year's harvest?

Unfortunately few people have anything to boast about. On the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes there are fewer grain and feed harvesting combines, windrow reapers, and tractor mowers and rakes in a good state of repair than there were a year ago. In the Russian Federation, for instance, 9,800 potato harvesting combines and 96,000 reapers are still awaiting repair. There are many unrepaired combines in oblasts of the Central and Volga-Vyatka regions, corn harvesting combines in the North Osetian ASSR, and beet harvesters in Orel, Voronezh, Kursk, and Penza Oblasts. Yet time is running out.

There is very slow progress in rectifying the situation as regards the development of storage bases for agricultural produce and the modernization, retooling, and capital construction of processing enterprises. Many factors which are customarily considered objective could be cited. But all the same the most important one is totally "unobjective" -- the importance of the work is underestimated.

After all, in Kharkov Oblast they were able in a comparatively short space of time considerably to improve matters regarding storage bases, and in Voroshilovgrad Oblast -- with the help of local industrial enterprises -- to increase capacities for the processing of agricultural produce. Yet in the Ukrainian SSR as a whole the republican planning organs have for some reason reduced their construction ministries' program for this year and are planning to "cut" still more the plan for next year, specifically as regards construction projects in the agro-industrial complex. But even where the projects exist, things are only middling.

Because of the shortage of storehouses and cold stores, people in Kazakhstan are unable to reduce losses of fruit and vegetable produce and improve supplies to the population. This year state purchases of potatoes, vegetables, and fruit here will exceed 2 million tonnes. Taking into account procurements which will be made by trading organizations, workers' supply departments, and provisions agencies, this volume is sufficient to supply the population. However, there are not enough storehouses for approximately 70,000 tonnes of produce. This year it was planned to build storehouses for 182,000 tonnes -- mainly using the forces of subunits of the Gosagroprom [State Agro-Industrial Committee]. Yet in 4 months the construction workers have assimilated only 13 percent of the funds allocated.

The workers' supply departments and administrations of enterprises of the republican Ministry of Geology, the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, and subunits of the Main Administration for the Construction of Rice Sovkhozes are also failing to show proper concern for extending the storage base. The Kazakh Potrebsoyuz storehouses are also small in capacity.

The cooperative workers, incidentally, have yet to achieve a radical restructuring in the work of their republican, kray, and oblast potrebsoyuzes, are slow to increase capacities for the processing and storage of agricultural products, and are wrecking plans for their commissioning. This was spoken of recently at a session of the USSR Gosagroprom which discussed the question of the work of the Tsentrosoyuz.

In a word, in order to be fully prepared to greet the harvest, everyone must do much work today. And this must be done in an extremely short space of time. The harvest time is not far off. And the vegetable season has virtually begun.

...Even in May, in the markets of, for instance, Rostov-na-donu, the resort cities of the Caucasian Mineral Waters region, and many other centers the range of vegetables was a wonderful sight, yet the counters of the fruit and vegetable trade organizations were empty. [paragraph continues]

The most typical reason -- the fruit and vegetable trade organizations in the mountains had failed to conclude contracts with the kolhozes and sovkhozes for deliveries of produce in good time. Why?

If you seek an explanation from, for instance, the Predgornyy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association, whose farms should supply the vegetable stores of the Kavminvodshoye Association and the Stavropol Kray Agro-Industrial Committee, this is the dialogue that takes place:

"This year," the rayon association says, "we were given a plan for distributing 31,210 tonnes of vegetables among the contracting parties. If we distribute that much, there will nothing left to sell on the market up to the permitted 30 percent."

"The plan is correct," the kray agro-industrial committee replies. "Trade in the markets too -- it will all count toward the plan."

"But then we will give the stores nothing," the rayon association feebly protests.

The situation is by no means harmless. The farms are now permitted to sell 30 percent of the crop themselves at the market, or else through the cooperatives. But how can they, if the plan for deliveries to processing enterprises and the union-republic stocks still includes 100 percent of the vegetables they produce? Just try not fulfilling the plan! But if you do fulfill it, there is nothing to take to the market. And they do not want to go to the market, because today it is simpler to sell the "gross output" than to compete on the market, worrying about the range, quality, and timing. That was the case a year ago, when instead of the 20 percent "permitted," the kolkhozes and sovkhozes sold less than 2 percent of their vegetables on the markets. The same thing is happening now. Yet all this is also a question of safekeeping of the crop, a question of supplying the population.

TASS UPDATES PROGRESS OF MIR COSMONAUTS

LD191253 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 19 TASS -- The Soviet cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin have been working in the near-earth orbit for 19 weeks.

They conducted two more series of experiments on June 18 and June 19 within the framework of an international program of astrophysical studies. They conducted observations of a neutron star in the Cygnus constellation with the help of an X-ray observatory installed in the specialized Kvant module. A medical support group is closely following the state of health of the crew during their long space flight.

An all-round check-up of the cardio-vascular system of the commander and the flight engineer is scheduled for today. Physiological parametres will be recorded by Gamma-1, a multifunctional medical apparatus.

The crew will also prepare today the Glazer ultraviolet telescope for the coming work.

According to reports from the orbit and the telemetric information, the flight of the MIR manned complex is going on according to a program drawn up for it.

Continue Loading Unmanned Craft

LD201643 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] The Soviet cosmonauts, Yuiy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin, have been loading the unmanned cargo craft, which is docked with their Mir orbital station, on which they have now been working for 19 weeks. The cosmonauts transferred used up materials and equipment to the cargo craft, which later on will be undocked and will burn down in the upper layers of the atmosphere. Cargo craft of this kind pay regular visits to the Mir station to deliver propellant, new equipment, foodstuffs, and instruments and materials for new experiments.

LIZICHEV ADDRESSES AIR DEFENSE FORCES OFFICIALS

PM191737 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jun 87 First Edition p 2

[Correspondent Col A. Yurkin report: "Enhancing Combat Readiness"]

[Text] A conference of the chiefs of Air Defense Forces Political organs has been held. It discussed the question of enhancing cadres' responsibility for fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee's demands for a fundamental improvement in combat readiness in conditions of the present international situation and stepping up the role of political organs, party organizations, and all Communists in restructuring and in ensuring the fulfillment of tasks in protecting the country's air borders. The report was delivered by Army General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

The political workers were addressed by A. Soshnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Administrative Organs Department, and Colonel General Aviation I. Maltsev, chief of the Main Staff and first deputy commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces.

GROUND FORCES COUNCIL DISCUSSES PREDRAFT TRAINING

PM181553 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jun 87 First Edition p 2

[Lt Col N. Gorin Report: "A Task of State Importance — Ground Forces Military Council Discusses Problems of Young People's Initial Military Training"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the Ground Forces Military Council has taken place in Lipetsk along with a methodical seminar attended by military district deputy commanders for civilian military training and VUZ's. Army General Ye. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Ground Forces; Colonel General M. Popkov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate; Army General S. Postnikov, first deputy commander in chief of the Ground Forces; Yu. Manayenkov, first secretary of the Lipetsk CPSU Obkom; chiefs of main and central directorates of the USSR Ministry of Defense; and representatives of ministries and departments participated in it.

Colonel General Yu. Naumenko, Ground Forces deputy commander in chief for civilian military training and USSR Ministry of Defense chief of civilian military training, gave a report on the course of work on fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution designed to further improve young people's training for military service.

The participants in the Military Council session noted that a responsible approach to the task of fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution has been taken in a number of republics and oblasts. Party and Soviet organs and other organs and organizations have begun to involve themselves more concretely and purposefully in questions of young people's military and patriotic training and their preparation for service in the Armed Forces. This is particularly typical of Lipetsk Oblast. Within a short period of time the facilities for initial military training have been improved here and well-organized cooperation between party and soviet organs, labor collectives, and DOSAAF organizations has been achieved. Now practically all the academic institutions in the city and oblast have a base for developing a program of initial military instruction to a high standard.

At the same time the Military Council stressed that in many republics and oblasts decisive changes have not occurred in training young people of predraft and draft age for service. In Estonia, the Chechen-Inguish ASSR, and a number of RSFSR oblasts due attention is not paid to the selection and methodological training of military instructor cadres and the implementation of medical and sanitary measures.

Summarizing the first results of the work on implementing the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution, the Military Council mapped out supplementary measures aimed at galvanizing the training of young people of predraft and draft age for service.